

THE LITERARY CHRONICLE

And Weekly Review;

Forming an Analysis and General Repository of Literature, Philosophy, Science, Arts, History, Biography, Antiquities, Morals, Manners, the Drama, and Amusements.

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REVIEW OF NEW BOOKS.

The Session of Parliament for 1825; exhibiting the State of Parties and Interests, the Debates and Enactments, and the whole Proceedings of both Houses of the British Legislature during that Period. To be continued Annually. 8vo. pp. 492. London, 1825. Knight and Lacey.

THEORETICAL politicians may talk of the inequality of representation in the British Parliament, and may truly enough say it is absurd, that the seven stones of Midhurst, the oak-tree of Old Sarum, or the cow sheds and pig styes of a dozen boroughs should send members to Parliament, while towns like Manchester, Birmingham, and Leeds are unrepresented. No doubt, *prima facie*, there is an apparent injustice or absurdity in it; if, however, it is contended that the places are best represented where the elective franchise is the most extensively diffused, we should beg leave to doubt it. The county of York, the most extensive in England, is as easily managed as the closest borough in Great Britain: the two leading families have only to coalesce, and they can send to Parliament who they please—Whigs or Tories, or, as has generally been the case, one of each, which is somewhat equivalent to not sending any. We can say this, for, to contest the county, would cost any man £150,000, and he must be a fool who would throw away so much money on a barren honour, since no advantages to be gained would indemnify him. Then, as to boroughs, with the exception of a few the Treasury hold—say to the extent of eighteen or twenty members—why, they are so equally balanced between the Whigs and Tories that the ministerial make-weight is barely sufficient for the preponderance.

So much for the representative portion of our legislature; of the hereditary portion of it, some of the most violent reformers have spoken in commendation. Horne Tooke, we believe, felt convinced that justice required that wealth, as well as individuals should have their representatives, and were we to turn to the legislative history of our country, we should find that, in point of patriotism and valuable service, the upper was never inferior to the lower house. It was the nobility of England—the barons of old, that wrested from a despotic sovereign *magna charta*, and secured the liberties of the people at the very time the feudal system was in its zenith, and in neighbouring states it was rivetting its chains. In almost every political contest, the nobles have stood foremost, particularly at the revolution of 1688.

The relative importance of the two houses of Parliament is of little avail, for their legis-

lative power alone would give their proceedings no ordinary degree of interest. With them all our laws originate, and we might almost add, from them they emanate, since, we believe, the royal prerogative of refusing to sanction a law passed by the two houses, has not been exercised above once during the last sixty or seventy years.

Such being the importance of the British senate, it may seem strange that no connected history of its proceedings has been published in a narrative form, while the Bible Society, the Humane Society, and almost every charitable or established association in the metropolis, has had its annual report. Can we suppose the transactions of a charitable society of more general importance than those of the lawgivers of the land? Certainly not; but we shall be told we have our newspapers, our magazines, and our annual registers. This is very true, no doubt; but the newspapers, from their want of arrangement and unwieldy form, are unfit as books of reference; the magazines are meagre and often incorrect and slovenly; and the Annual Register, notwithstanding its merits, which we allow to be great, is generally published too late, the events it records have often been overshadowed in interest by those which succeeded them before its appearance.

The Session of Parliament, which is novel in its plan, appears to supply a niche in our political history; it embodies the public business of a whole session of Parliament, with the arguments of the most influential members, as an American would say, upon all the important questions. It comes, too, fresh on us, within six weeks of the close of that session, of which it is a condensed, and, we believe, a very faithful record. If, however, our readers think the author a mere reporter, they do him wrong; he gives not only the facts, but the philosophy (if we may use the term) of the session, mingled with a large portion of sound reflection and just political views. The work is original, and while it neither distorts nor conceals any fact of importance, gives a well written and well digested history of the session of Parliament for 1825.

On one point, perhaps, our readers will be most anxious to be informed; and that is, the political bias of the author. With regard to this, we should say, that, so far as an attentive but hasty perusal enables us to judge, he throughout displays a strict and fearless honesty, which even those who differ from him must respect. 'Nowhere in this volume,' as he observes, 'is there any desire to misstate a principle, or misrepresent a party.' It is, however, far from our intention to attempt a full account of the work,

since the late period at which it is published precludes it: we shall therefore content ourselves with quoting a few passages, and leave the rest to next week. On the subject of the landed interest in Parliament—the most obstinate, the most powerful, and the greatest obstacle to liberal legislation, our author observes,—

'Abating the church establishment, aristocratic feeling, and a devotedness to the laws as existing, the landed interest may be regarded as forming not only the chief, but almost the exclusive influence in the upper house; and if there be several members of that house who advocate the colonial or some of the commercial interests, and also principles of general liberality, these are still to be regarded rather as exceptions and anomalies. In the lower house again, the landed interest certainly predominates: on account not only of the number of county members, and of landed proprietors who represent boroughs; but on account of the general feeling, not yet eradicated, that property in land is more secure and more respectable than any other kind of property, and that, therefore, the interests of the holders of other property should give way to the interests of the holders of that. The landed interest having in former times obtained, or rather made, strong enactments in their own favour, continue to cling to them with a determination which, to say the least of it, is more pertinacious than wise. Formerly, they acquired the means of keeping corn and agricultural produce generally at a much higher rate than it would have been, had the trade in that produce been free; and though certain trifling advantages have been gained upon them, such as a less fettered trade in grain and provisions between Britain and Ireland, and also though the liberal part of the administration have menaced the principle of the corn-laws, the menace has not yet been carried into execution to any beneficial extent. But the landed interest have not only been able hitherto to retain their monopoly against the public; they have also been enabled to procure repeals of certain taxes—such as those upon agricultural stock, agricultural implements, and servants employed in agriculture, which do not appear to have been productive of any advantage to the other classes of the community, and which, if one may judge from their continued complaints, do not appear to have been fraught with very great advantage, even to the agriculturists themselves.

'Besides the great question of the corn-laws, upon which the landed interest is arrayed in opposition to all the other interests of the country, there are other points upon

which it comes in contact with peculiar interests, both colonial and domestic. The same principle which makes the landed interest exert itself to exclude the grain of Poland, makes it equally jealous of the rum of the West Indies; and though the distillers of British spirits, and the brewers of beer—more especially in England, be two of the most close and well-organized monopolies in the country, and have each their own party, and that by no means a weak party in the House of Commons, yet they never fail to be backed by the whole influence of the landed interest. The West India planters, too, have a powerful party in the house, and thus, though the distillers and the brewers, backed by the landed interest, be not wholly invincible against them, they are nearly so against the country generally; and though the great hardship to which the public are subjected, especially in the case of the brewers, has been very frequently and very forcibly brought before parliament, the event has always hitherto shown that in order to set the public free from their trammels, it would require the influence of a very liberal and a very powerful ministry, exerted for a very considerable portion of time.

In these remarks we cordially agree: the landed interest is the only absolute power in England, which thwarts the views of ministers in their legislation, and compels the public to purchase the first article of consumption—grain, at their own price. We will not, however, stop to notice the various interests of the political parties in the House of Commons, of which our author gives a very correct estimate. We shall, therefore, conclude for the present with his observations on the subjects which came before Parliament last sessions:—

The Combination Laws.—The most important miscellaneous measure of the session was that which related to the combinations of workmen in order to obtain high wages. Formerly such combinations had, though strictly limited to this object and temperately conducted, been illegal, while those of masters to keep the wages low had been wholly without the statute. Many of the laws, prohibiting these combinations, had been found not only cruel and oppressive in their operation on workmen, and wholly inefficient, as every law which trenches on the liberty of the subject must be, for accomplishing their purposes, but had given rise to secret oaths and secret meetings, infinitely more dangerous and more hurtful than any open assemblies could have been. Accordingly, in the session of 1824, Mr. Hume moved for and obtained the appointment of a committee, which, among other matters, was instructed "to inquire into, and report upon, the state of the law and its effects, in so far as related to combinations of workmen and others to raise wages, or regulate their wages and hours of working." A great number of persons were examined on these points, and their evidence was so uniformly in favour of an alteration or total repeal of the existing statutes, that the committee came to a unanimous resolution, recommending their repeal, and the introduction of a different system.

A bill was accordingly introduced, and passed through its different stages, which repealed all the statutes prohibiting combinations among workmen to raise their wages, or to effect a change in their hours of working, and made it legal for them to combine for these purposes, provided they did not endeavour to effect them by threats, violence, or intimidation.

'It could hardly have been expected that the concession of so much freedom and liberty to a class of persons, who had previously been subjected to severe and unjust control, would have been used with discretion and prudence; and the bill had no sooner passed into a law, than combinations and strikes for a rise of wages became general over the whole kingdom. Unions of trades, having their committees, their delegates, their secretaries, their regular meetings and subscriptions, were formed in every direction; and not only determined not to work under certain wages, but actually, in several cases, used every means in their power to prevent others from working in their stead. The inconvenience and loss arising from these causes, rendered such combinations extremely obnoxious, not only to the masters, who had no means of preventing them but by compliance with their demands, but, from the cases of violence which had occurred in Dublin and Glasgow, to the country generally. Mr. Huskisson accordingly moved, on the 29th of March, for the appointment of a select committee to consider the effect of the act of last session, and to report as to the necessity of repealing or amending its provisions.

'After a violent and lengthened debate between Mr. Huskisson, Mr. Peel, Mr. Hume, and others, in which the latter gentleman contended that the conduct of the masters had been equally faulty with that of the men, and that the law as it presently stood, was perfectly sufficient to repress all improper combination, a committee was appointed, which, after a tedious (and, as was afterwards alleged, an unfair and partial) examination of witnesses, reported to the house, that, in their opinion, the act of last session ought to be repealed, and new and more efficient provisions introduced in its stead. A bill, the same in principle as the act of the former session, was accordingly passed through its different stages, repealing the act of 1824, but renewing its provisions in so far as it repealed all former enactments on the subject, and permitted workmen to combine or unite in a peaceable and orderly manner, for the purpose of obtaining an increase of wages.

'The act then proceeded to detail various things to the number of eighteen, which it shall not be lawful to do. Its provisions differed, however, in so trifling a degree from those of the act of the former session, that it is scarcely necessary to notice them further than by stating, that by the present law every workman or other person, or any number of persons, are liable to be punished by summary process for forcing, endeavouring to force, threatening, molesting, obstructing, or compelling by any means whatever, any

person or persons, either to leave his or their work, or to join any combination or union of workmen. Witnesses refusing to give evidence are also liable to imprisonment for a period not exceeding three months, or until such time as they may consent to give such evidence; it being left to the option of the magistrate to receive the evidence, when once refused, or to confine the person who has so refused for that period. The two points, in fact, on which it mainly differs from the act of last session are, that under the former law, no master manufacturer, or son of a master manufacturer, being a justice of the peace, could act in any case of combination, while under the present law, such justices are permitted to act: and that an appeal is now allowed from the decision of the justice or magistrates to the quarter sessions.

'The bill, after having passed a first and second reading without any opposition, became, on the motion for considering it, and bringing up the report, the subject of one of the warmest and most violent discussions which occurred in the course of the session. The cause of this opposition was the insertion of the words "insult, molestation, and obstruction," which, the opponents of the bill contended, were too vague and indefinite; and the permission which it gave to justices being manufacturers, or the sons of manufacturers, to enforce its provisions by passing sentence on those who might be found guilty of violating them. Divisions took place on all these points, when there appeared large majorities in favour of the words, which, with the exception of "insult," stand part of the act. A motion was also made in the course of the debate, to permit trial by jury of persons offending against its provisions, which, after some discussion and a division, was rejected by a considerable majority. The bill passed the House of Commons on the 24th of June, and received the royal assent on the 5th of July.'

On the subject of private bills, and that portion of them which relates to joint-stock companies, the author says,—

'If the public measures relating to commerce, law, and miscellaneous regulation showed how much could in the course of a single session be done for the improvement of the general internal government of the country, the number of private bills which were proposed, and even the number carried, showed how strong the spirit of local improvement was, and how ample were the funds for giving effect to that spirit.

'The total number of petitions for private bills presented to the house was four hundred and thirty-eight, out of which acts in terms of two hundred and eighty-six were passed, and the remaining one hundred and fifty-two were either rejected by the committees, or thrown out by the houses at some stage of their progress. Of the one hundred and fifty-two, eighty were rejected in the committees to which the petitions were referred, twenty-nine were lost upon the second reading in the commons, thirty-five in the committees of that house, and in subsequent stages; and eight, having been passed by

the commons, were rejected by the upper house. After these deductions, the number actually passed greatly exceeded all former precedent, being double that for the session 1822, and more than one-half of that for the session 1824.

1. *Joint Stock Companies*.—It must not be supposed that the greater part of this increase was owing to the rage for joint stock companies, which was the most peculiar feature of the year, for though the number of those companies was astonishing, and the objects of many of them absurd, yet the number of bills passed was but few, and the petitions presented not many. Perhaps the hostility to those companies, declared by the lord chancellor at the opening of the session, might have prevented some of them from presenting petitions, but many of them were of such a nature, that they could not stand even the preliminary investigation, and the object of the projectors seemed to be not to establish the companies for any practical purpose, either by acts of parliament or otherwise, but merely to sell the shares; and having got rid of all these at a profit to leave the buyers to do with the company as they listed. The total number of petitions for joint-stock companies was only forty-seven, out of which, eleven passed, and thirty-seven were rejected. Of those rejected, nine were for the establishment of gas companies; six for banking companies; seven for mining speculations; five for navigation and fishery companies; four for water companies; and five were of a miscellaneous nature. In the eleven which passed, three were for mining companies—the Arigna Iron and Coal Company, the Hibernian Mining Company, and the Imperial Mining Company, all in Ireland; one was for water works (Shaw's); three were for navigation and fisheries—the Atlantic Steam Navigation Company, to institute regular steam packets at Valencia, in the S. W. of Ireland, to and from America and the West Indies, which was calculated greatly to facilitate and shorten the communication between those places, and also to improve the south of Ireland, through which the road leading to Valencia would pass; the Western Ship Canal to open a communication, by means of a navigable canal, from Seaton Bay, in the county of Devon, to the bay of Bridgewater, in the Bristol channel, and another of less public utility, and four more of a miscellaneous nature (besides the apothecaries' made a public bill, and received the royal assent on the 6th of July)—the Alliance Marine Assurance, the Royal Exchange Assurance, the Irish Manufactories, and the East India. The merely stock-jobbing companies were all rejected, and those of the mining associations, which had a *bona fide* purpose, finding that they did not require acts of parliament, did not press for them.

Hymns. By JOHN BOWRING. 18mo. pp. 143. London, 1825. Hunter.

MR. BOWRING's talents in writing devotional poetry are already well known to the public, by some beautiful pieces of this description in the Russian Anthology, and by his *Matins and Vespers*, to which this little

work is intended as a sequel. Perhaps there are no works in which so much absurdity is betrayed as in our hymn books, and if we had a collection of them, we pledge ourselves to produce more amusement in a review than from half the works of humour ever written. Watts and Charles Wesley wrote some beautiful things of this sort, but, of late years, we have had sad stuff imposed on us for modern hymns; which, partaking of the cant of the day, are as devoid of true religion as they are of common sense.

Mr. Bowring, however, is a gentleman, who, whether his religious tenets are orthodox or heterodox, possesses considerable talents, as the hymns now before us would prove, had he not previously given sufficient evidence of this. The work is avowedly written to introduce the variety of measure in the hymns used by the Lutheran and Calvinistic churches of the Continent, which, we think, the author has done very successfully. Many of the hymns are taken from the German, Dutch, Swedish, and Danish, a circumstance which says much for Mr. B.'s acquaintance with languages, the three latter of which are not much cultivated, except in the countries where they are spoken.

This little work contains upwards of one hundred and fifty hymns, most of which possess considerable merit; two of them we quote at random:—

‘AGAR'S PETITION.

‘If we may breathe a prayer to Thee,
Our Father and our friend,
Let neither wealth nor poverty
Our earthly steps attend.

‘But Thou, who knowest all, dost know,
What's wisest—kindest—best;
We at Thy feet our off'rings throw,
Do Thou direct the rest.

‘Thou canst not grant our idle prayers,
When evil they intreat;
Though urg'd with sighs, implor'd with tears,
Thy mercy is too great.

‘Thou wilt deny us, Father! nought
That's good, or kind, or right,
Though never ask'd in word, or thought;
Thy love is infinite.’

“WATCHMAN! WHAT OF THE NIGHT.”

‘Watchman! tell us of the night,
What its signs of promise are:
Traveller! o'er yon mountains height
See that glory-beaming star!
Watchman! doth its beauteous ray
Aught of hope or joy foretell?
Traveller! yes! it brings the day,
Promis'd day of Israel.

‘Watchman! tell us of the night;
Higher yet that star ascends:
Traveller! blessedness and light
Peace and truth its course portends.
Watchman! will its beams alone
Gild the spot that gave them birth?
Traveller! ages are its own,
And it bursts o'er all the earth.

‘Watchman! tell us of the night,
For the morning seems to dawn:
Traveller! darkness takes its flight,
Doubt and terror are withdrawn.
Watchman! let thy wand'rings cease;
Hie thee to thy quiet home:
Traveller! lo! the Prince of Peace,
Lo! the Son of God is come!’

1. *Essays on Landscape-Gardening, and on uniting Picturesque Effect with Rural Scenery: containing Directions for laying out and improving the Grounds connected with a Country Residence*. Illustrated by Six Plates. By RICHARD MORRIS, F. L. S., Secretary to the Medico-Botanical Society of London, &c. 4to. pp. 91. London, 1825. Taylor.

2. *Hints on Rural Residences*.—By NICHOLAS CARLISLE, Esq., Secretary to the Society of Antiquaries. 4to. pp. 107. London.

It is, we believe, universally acknowledged, that in point of decorative horticulture England surpasses every other country, and that our rural residences possess more real comfort, and display more taste than those of our neighbours. Indeed, thanks to a Brown, a Repton, a Gilpin, and a Price, landscape-gardening has become a regular art, which avails itself of all the riches and beauties of nature, and corrects its deformities. The object of Mr. Morris, as avowed in the preface at the head of this article, is to concentrate scattered but instructive hints, and unite the result of an earnest application to the effects of natural scenery, as connected with the art of landscape-gardening. In an introduction, in which he gives a brief historical notice of horticulture, he enters into an examination of the nature of the beautiful and the picturesque, coming to this conclusion—that ‘taste is a faculty capable of improvement by education and elegant associations.’ From the historical sketch we quote an extract:—

‘In the works of Cicero and Pliny, we read of the formal and stiff kind of gardening which then prevailed, such as clipped hedges and long avenues of trees; and in Propertius we read of the introduction of statues and jets d'eau. Pliny the younger has given an account of his villa at Laurentinum, situated some distance from Rome; he describes a variety of building attached to it, and the garden as being surrounded with hedges of box, and that this villa was admired for its extensive prospects.

‘From the establishment of the ecclesiastical government of the popes in the eighth, to the end of the twelfth century, the monks were nearly the only class of persons in Europe who attended to arts and sciences generally, and to decorative gardening in particular. After which period, the style of gardening practised in Italy and other civilized parts of Europe, consisted principally in tall clipped hedges, square parterres fantastically planted, straight walks, and trees uniformly lopped.

‘There can be but little doubt, that the Romans first introduced gardening into this country; yet it was little attended to till near the latter end of the sixteenth century. We are informed that Hampton Court was laid out and planted by Cardinal Wolsey, and that King Charles the Second employed Le Notre to plant the parks of Greenwich and St. James's. Charles also planted the semicircle in Hampton Court. Cashibury, an ancient seat of the Earls of Essex, was admired, in 1680, for being adorned with walks,

ponds, and other such elegancies. In 1683, the grounds of Wanstead House, Essex, Sir Josiah Child's, were considered worthy of notice. In the reign of George the Second, Queen Caroline enlarged and planted Kensington Gardens, and formed what is still called the Serpentine River, by uniting a number of detached ponds. Lord Bathurst was the first who deviated from straight lines, as applied to decorative pieces of water, by following the natural curves of a valley, when widening a brook at Ryskins, near Colnbrook. Lord Stafford, supposing economy to have been the motive, inquired, "What would have been the additional expense to have made the banks of this piece of water straight?"

"It appears surprising, while pursuing this subject from the time of Vespasian or Titus to the reign of George the Third, to find that little improvement had been made in the style of landscape gardening.

"About this period, improvements more natural and elegant were introduced by Kent, Brown, and others, which met with such general approbation, that Sir William Chambers was induced to say, "If this mania be not checked, there will not remain three trees standing in a line throughout the kingdom." Since that period, however, the taste for natural scenery has so much improved, that the specimens of ancient taste in landscape gardening are now esteemed as remains of antiquity; the most respected and distinguished of which may be considered those grand avenues at Hampton Court and Windsor Forest: such noble examples may with propriety be deemed worthy of preservation."

Mr. Morris then proceeds, in eight essays, to discuss the situation and style of building, external decorations, laying out grounds, planting, water, rural ornaments, distant scenery, and general appearances. In all these he displays much taste, correct judgment, and practical experience. He also writes in a very agreeable style, and we confidently recommend his work to all gentlemen who have grounds to improve, as well as to all horticulturists, as containing much valuable practical information. The essays are illustrated by six coloured engravings, some of which by a folding leaf, exhibit the improvements to be made in natural views.

If Mr. Morris confines himself principally to the improvement of the grounds, Mr. Carlisle, in his work, goes a little farther, and teaches us how best to raise a residence. There is much good sense in his observations, and we perfectly agree with him in recommending models in preference to drawings, before a design is determined on. He says:—

"The gentleman who would proceed with confidence in a journey through bricks and mortar, and enjoy a clear view of the termination of his labours, with all the by and crooked ways which lead thereto, together with the pitfalls of the unrighteous mammon which intervene, so as to secure the one and escape the others, will perhaps pursue the following steps;—the first of which is, that he do cause a complete though plain model of

the design he has fixed upon to be made very accurately, to a scale of at least a quarter of an inch to a foot; the several stories to be contrived so as to lift on and off at pleasure, that every part may be easily and minutely scrutinized and measured. Gentlemen who have not been so far conversant in plans, as to judge therefrom with certainty, ought not to grudge the trifling charge of three, four, or five guineas for a toy of this kind: the information and advantages to be derived from it may prevent much of the opprobrious work of alteration, save a great deal of trouble, and a considerable sum of money.

"Being possessed of such a model, and having obtained thereby a clear and satisfactory idea of the forms, situations, connections, and dependencies of the several apartments, his next step will be to minute down the general dimensions of such of them at least as are of the greatest consequence; and, in order to satisfy himself of the competency of their magnitudes, let him try the dimensions of several rooms of similar descriptions in the houses of his friends, until he meets with such as shall agree so nearly with his minutes as to leave no doubt upon his mind of the sufficiency or insufficiency of the capacities of the apartments in his model. This should by no means be considered as a useless trouble: the ideas which we form of magnitudes are often exceedingly deceptive, and therefore the best and most certain means should be used to regulate and correct them, which undoubtedly are those that are now recommended. As to the common method of measuring out the lengths and breadths of the intended apartments in the open air, or in some very large room, and setting chairs, tables, or screens, to confine their dimensions, and shape their forms—this method will by no means answer the purpose so well: a tolerably good room, tried in this way, will appear confined and trifling.

"Having proceeded thus far, it will be advisable to procure a few blocks of wood, cut out, by the scale of the model, to the proper general dimensions, the shapes of bedsteads, tables, chairs, and other common pieces of furniture, the placing of which in the apartments of the model will be of considerable use in judging of the conveniences of the design. He will now of course be qualified to decide upon the merits of his model, and, if he can discover no material defects, may call in his friends, and his foes too, if he pleases, and submit the whole to their criticism: there is no doubt but that he will be well enabled to avail himself of such advice as shall be really sensible and proper, and will easily distinguish it from such as may be dictated by mere whim or caprice, and the result will determine him whether he shall adopt the model as it stands, or with any practicable improvements; or whether he shall throw it into the fire, and procure another, formed upon better principles, and repeat his whole operation over again. It will be exceedingly well worth his while, if he cannot fix for himself, to let his friends alter, mangle, and burn, three or four models, one after another, till he has at length satisfied them all, and himself too, if possible; but let him be resolute

in this one single point, which is, that he does not by any means suffer a stick or a stone of his building to be altered after it is once begun, let friends or foes say what they will.

"To examine the proportions of the exterior of a design, and form a competent judgment of its effects, supposing an exact model has been made of it, let a board or table (covered with green cloth if you please) be raised to such a height as that the top thereof may be just so many feet and inches, by the scale of the model, below your eye, as your eye really is above the ground on which you stand;—the model being placed upon this board or table, in the open air, clear of the view of other objects, will then produce the same effect in every respect as the building would do if it was actually completed. This must certainly be far preferable to any ideas that perspective drawings can furnish, and perhaps it would not be doing justice to the exterior of a model, to examine it in any other situation, with a view to judge of its merits or defects."

THE HISTORY OF THE FRENCH REVOLUTION. (Concluded from p. 552.)

No part of the French Revolution, blood-stained as it was, was marked by such atrocities as those instigated by Danton. Some of these we have noticed in a preceding number. We allude to the massacres in the prisons. Among their victims was the beautiful Princess de Lambelle:—

"The monsters, who had continued to spill blood since the preceding Sunday, became only more and more exasperated, and had contracted a habit of murder which they could not restrain. They even established a species of regularity in their executions, suspending them to carry away the dead and take their meals. The very women visited the prisons to bring their dinner to their husbands, who, they used to say, were occupied at the abbey.

"At the "Force," "Bicêtre," and "Abbaye," the massacres were of longer continuance than at the other prisons. It was at the first named that the unfortunate Princess de Lambelle, so celebrated at the court for her beauty, and her intimacy with the queen, was confined. She was conducted, half dead with illness, to the terrible wicket. "Who are you?" demanded the executioners. "Louise de Savoie, princesse de Lambelle." "What was your station at the court? Do you know anything of the plots of the palace?" "I have never known of any plots?" "Swear, then, to love liberty and equality; swear to hate the king, the queen, and royalty." "I will take the first oath, but I cannot the second; it is not in my heart."

"Swear, then," said one of the assassins, who wished to save her; but the unfortunate princess no longer possessed any presence of mind; she heard and understood nothing. "Let madam be let loose," said the chief of the wicket; for here, as at the abbey, a word had been fixed on as a signal for death. The unhappy lady was then led out, not with the intentions, say some narrators, to put her to death, but to set her free. Nevertheless, she was received at the door by furies thirsting

for blood. The first sabre stroke fell on the back of her head, and the blood spouted out; yet she still advanced, supported by two men, who were, perhaps, willing to save her; but she had scarcely proceeded a few steps when she sunk under a second blow; her beautiful body was hideously mangled, and divided among her assassins. Her head, her heart, &c. were carried on the point of a pike about Paris. "We must," said these men, with their atrocious raillery, "take them to the foot of the throne." Upon which they hastened immediately to the Temple, and awakened the unfortunate prisoners by their outcries, who demanded with terror the occasion of the disturbance. The municipal officers endeavoured to prevent their seeing the furious crowd assembled under their windows; and the bloody head raised on the top of a pike. At last one of the National Guard said to the queen, "It is the head of the Princess Lambelle which we wish to prevent your seeing." On this intelligence the queen fainted away. Madame Elizabeth, the king, and the valet-de-chambre, Clery, carried her out of the room; and the shouts of the ferocious troop resounded long round the walls of the Temple.

When the Duke of Brunswick invaded France, Dumouriez, who stained a life of bravery by treachery, was appointed to the chief command of the French army, and he it was that first taught the raw and undisciplined levies of France to defeat regular troops. After repelling the first attempt to march on to Paris, and driving the enemy across the frontier, Dumouriez proposed invading Belgium, and left the army for Paris, in order to consult the government. While there, he visited the Jacobin Club, which is well described in this work. This assembly had indeed become so powerful, that a victorious general found it necessary to court its approbation. Among other acts of dominion and interference of this club, our authors mention the following:—

"If a minister, a secretary, or a commissary was accused of any delinquency, messengers were immediately despatched from the Jacobins, who examined their desks, and demanded their accounts with magisterial imperiousness, and which were delivered up as to an acknowledged authority without resistance. If any complained of an act of the government, he had nothing to do but present himself to this society, and official advocates were commissioned to see justice done him. Sometimes the soldiers complained of the officers, and workmen of their employers: and on one occasion, an actress lodged her complaint against a manager, and a jacobin demanded reparation for the seduction of his wife by one of his colleagues. Every one was anxious to attest his patriotic zeal by becoming a member of the society, and nearly all the new deputies joined it immediately on their arrival at Paris; a hundred and thirteen were added to its number in one week, and even those who had no intention of attending its sittings nevertheless demanded admission. So great was its influence, that the affiliated clubs were accustomed to write from the provinces, to know if their representatives were

members; and if they were assiduous in their duties. The rich sought to avert odium from their opulence, by adopting jacobin principles, and wearing the red bonnet; and their equipages might be seen daily rolling up to the door of this rendezvous of equality. It often happened that whilst the hall was full of members, and the galleries crowded with spectators, immense multitudes waited at the entrance, and loudly demanded admission. Sometimes this multitude, dripping in the rain, became impatient, and then some member would stand up and demand admission for the good people who were waiting at the door. Murat was generally their advocate on these occasions; and when admission was granted, and frequently before, a crowd of men and women would rush in upon the society, and mix familiarly with its members. Its sittings were held towards the close of the day, when all the heat and fire of party, at the same time fanned and smothered at the convention, broke out with a terrible explosion. The night, the crowd, and the orators, all contributed to inflame the passions; and frequently when a sitting was prolonged, interminable confusion and tumult ensued; and the disturbers of the public peace wrought up their courage for some desperate enterprise on the next day."

Dumouriez was received in this society by Danton, who presided during that session. After a short address, Danton complimented him on his victories.

"Collet d'Herbois then harangued the general, and his speech is a good specimen of the style of that epoch, and shows the dispositions of the Jacobins with regard to Dumouriez.

"It is not a king, O Dumouriez, who has appointed thee to the command of the army, but thy fellow-citizens. Bear in mind that the general of a republic should serve it alone. You have heard of Themistocles; after having saved his country at Salamis, being calumniated by his enemies, he was driven to seek an asylum in the land of a tyrant, who endeavoured to bribe him to take up arms against his country; his answer was a dagger in the tyrant's heart. Dumouriez, you have enemies, you will be calumniated; remember Themistocles!"

"An enslaved people look to thee for succour; you will shortly deliver them. What a glorious mission!—But you must beware of an excess of generosity towards your enemies. You have let off the King of Prussia a little too much in the French fashion. But we hope Austria will be made to pay double."

"You are about to go to Bruxelles, Dumouriez. I see I need say nothing on this subject.—Yet if you should find there any execrable woman who came under the walls of Lille, to refresh her ferocity by the spectacle of the conflagration of the city!—But this woman does not expect you.—"

"At Bruxelles, liberty is about to spring up under your feet.—Men, maidens, women, and children will press around you; what happiness you are about to enjoy!—My wife is from Bruxelles, she will embrace you also!"

The events of the war are too well known to need our dwelling on them. It is known that Dumouriez arrested the deputies sent from Paris to arrest him, and that he deserted his army, for the camp of the enemy, and afterwards received the price of his treachery in a pension of £1200 a-year from the British government. With regard to the civil administration of France during this reign of terror, it is not our intention to dwell, since each day produced some change, as the Jacobins or Girondists, the two chief parties into which politicians were at this time divided, gained the ascendancy. The poet says, 'suspicion haunts the guilty mind,' nor will it excite surprise, that men who had shed rivers of blood, should be fearful of retribution. At one of the meetings of the convention, it was decreed that the names of every person inhabiting the same house should be written on the door:—

"All suspected citizens were ordered to be disarmed, in which number were included all recusant priests, all the nobility, and all dismissed public functionaries. This decree was executed by means of domiciliary visits. After having thus obtained the means of apprehending, at a moment's notice, those who gave the least umbrage to the ruling authorities, the revolutionary tribunal was established, to strike them more effectually with terror, and to paralyze all their designs. This terrible instrument of suspicion was first adopted on the motion of Danton, who, although he had anticipated its abuse, was willing to sacrifice everything to the attainment of his objects. He was well aware that hasty condemnations always suppose superficial examinations; that these, especially when party spirit runs high, are eminently liable to involve innocence and guilt together; and that atrocious injustice must thus be continually committed. But in his eyes, the revolution was an emblem of society in rapid career, accelerating its action in justice, government, and war. "In times of tranquillity," said he, "society prefers allowing the guilty to escape to punishing the innocent, because the guilty are then little dangerous; but as the danger increases, society also becomes more implacable; and when it becomes so imminent as to threaten destruction, suspicion is considered as proof, and all are regarded as criminal whose conduct is in any degree equivocal. Such is the character of a dictatorship; it is rapid, arbitrary, indiscriminating, but irresistible."

Our authors only bring down the Revolution to the fall of the Girondists. We hope they will continue it, at least to the establishment of the imperial monarchy. The work contains a good account of the resistance to the Revolution on the Loire, particularly in La Vendee. One of the earliest insurrections was in Anjou, when—

"The young men refused to enlist; the guard determined to force them, and the military commandant ordered a piece of artillery to be pointed on the mutineers. On this, they sprang forward with their sticks, seized on the cannon, disarmed the guard, but seemed dismayed at their own temerity. A carrier, named Cathelineau, much looked

up to in this country, and remarkable for his intrepidity and eloquence, hearing this news, quitted his farm and hastened into the midst of his compatriots, rallied them, rekindled their courage, and gave the insurrection a character more imposing and formidable. On the same day, he determined to attack a republican post, defended by eighty men; the peasants followed him with their clubs and fire-arms, and after one discharge, every shot of which told, for these peasants were great marksmen, they rushed upon the post, disarmed the soldiers, and rendered themselves masters of the position. On the following day, Cathelineau marched upon Chemille, and carried it, although it was defended by three hundred republicans, and three pieces of cannon. A guard of the castle of Maulevrier, named Stofflet, and a young peasant of the village of Chauzeau, collected each a troop of their countrymen, and hastened to join Cathelineau, who daringly conceived the project of attacking Chollet, the chief town of the district, and garrisoned by five hundred republicans. They adhered to the same method of warfare in this enterprise as they had practised so successfully on the two former places. Taking advantage of the hedges, and the inequalities of the soil, they succeeded in surrounding the enemy's battalion, and opened an unerring fire upon them under cover. The republicans being thrown into some confusion by this destructive sharp-shooting, they rushed suddenly upon them, surrounded their ranks, routed and disarmed the soldiers, and beat them with their clubs. Such were their military tactics, which were well adapted to the nature of the country. The troops whom they attacked, drew up in a line, and without any cover, received, but could not return, their fire, for they could neither make use of their artillery, nor come to the bayonet, against enemies who were dispersed on every side. In this situation, not being veterans in war, they could not, for a moment, withstand such a well-directed and brisk fire, which could never be equalled by troops of the line; but, when they saw these fanatics burst upon them in front, rear, and flank, uttering appalling shouts as they advanced, a panic and confusion was almost inevitable. Their destruction was then certain, for flight, so easy to the country people, was almost impossible for troops encumbered with their arms and accoutrements, and unacquainted with the country. Troops more intrepid and accustomed to war, should therefore have been sent into these districts, not these national guards who had been lately raised, and had never been in action before.

The victorious band of Cathelineau entered Chollet, and seized upon all the arms and ammunition they found there. In this manner the Vendéens always procured military supplies. Their defeat gave little advantage to the enemy, for they carried nothing with them but a musket or club, whereas a victory on their part procured for them all the means of carrying on the war. The victorious insurgents celebrated their success with festivity, and then burnt all the papers of the republican administration, which they

regarded as instruments of tyranny. They then returned to their villages and farms, where they remained for some days.

In concluding our notice of this very interesting work, we cannot but express our regret that there is neither index nor table of contents, nor is that strict and continued attention paid to the dates, which is necessary; this, we hope, will be remedied, if the work comes to a second edition, which we doubt not it soon will.

The Progresses, Processions, and Magnificent Entertainments of King James the First, his Royal Consort, Family, and Court. By JOHN NICHOLS, F.S.A. Parts III. and IV. 4to. London, 1825. Nichols.

We have already introduced the first two parts of this work to our readers, and we can assure them that all we said in their praise will apply to those now before us, since the work increases in interest as it proceeds. At a time when the rage of bibliomania makes a man value books not on account of their merit, but their scarcity, and when more money is given for a single copy than would produce a thousand reprints, the public is much indebted to Mr. Nichols, for giving us many rare tracts, which, singly, could not be purchased, perhaps, at any price, and which when offered for sale, have produced large prices. The work is, therefore, valuable as a depository of the contemporary publications of the period to which it relates, and particularly as there are numerous notes and explanations which throw great light on the manners of the times. As an instance of the rarity of some of the tracts, of which we have here reprints, we may mention that England's Caesar, a poem on James's coronation, which only occupies ten pages in Mr. Nichols' Progresses, bound with some other tracts, sold at Mrs. Garrick's sale for forty guineas! This is only one of the numerous pamphlets that the work contains, independent of unpublished letters and other documents illustrated by the research and half a century's reading of Mr. Nichols.

Court sycophancy is proverbial, but it appears to have reached its meridian in the reign of James the First: he was called a Caesar, who trembled with fear when he saw a naked sword, and was deemed a Solomon, who scarcely possessed an ordinary portion of good sense. The author of England's Caesar, Henry Petowe, was one of the grossest of flatterers, for he saw nothing but talent and virtue in James before even he arrived in London; the very extravagance of his flattery renders it amusing, as will be seen by the two following stanzas, which are all we shall quote:—

‘Ope wide, yee oryent gates of Cæsar’s tower!
Cæsar himselfe, with a most royall trayne,
Must grace your golden leaves; this is the
lower,
Fly open, then, for Cæsar’s entertayne;
Usher his way, my muse, say that he comes,
At whose uprise Phœbus doth stand at gaze;
Thinking the Heaven’s had ordeyn’d two
sunnes,
One for the earth, which made Heaven’s
sunne amaze.
Such is the glory of his reflecting gleames,

Compos’d of sacred metall, made by Jove;
That night turnes day, when as he darts his
beames;

Frowne into smyles; such is his princely
love.

Then, London, smyle, let no brow dare to
frowne,

When royall James rides to his regall
crowne.

‘Thus should the flynty pavements of the
streete

Be clad in greene, th’ apparell of the spring,
As if their joy were young, and therefore sweet,
And being sweet, a present for a king.

The houses mantled all in tapestry,

The high pyramides of the churches thunder;

Eyes never saw such a glorious royaltie,

The pride of London and the English wonder.

The synowes of the sittie troynovant,

Clad in their richest robes in comely sort,

Whose faire demeanour drawes like adamant

Spectators’ hearts, bearing so rich a part.

Thus should they sit, rayld in on either
side,

Of every streete twixt whome our king
should ryde.’

Sir Egerton Brydges supposes this Petowe, of whom no notice has been taken by poetical biographers, to have been a court dependant, and, as by the following anecdote, James appears to have been bountiful, we hope the poor fellow did not prostitute his talents for nothing:—

‘James had been taught to consider the treasure left by Elizabeth, and the further resources of the kingdom, as an inexhaustible mine. Lately arrived from a country where the use of money was hardly known, he was really ignorant of its value, and became immeasurably profuse. Osborn, in his Traditional Memoirs of this Reign, illustrates this part of the monarch’s character by the following ridiculous story. Carre, afterwards earl of Somerset, his first favourite in England, having obtained from him a peremptory warrant to the treasurer for £20,000, that minister, foreseeing the future inability of the exchequer to answer demands so enormous, (and, according to the words of my author, “apprehending that the king was as ignorant of the worth of what was demanded, as of the desert of the person who had begged it; and knowing that a pound, upon the Scottish accompt, would not pay for the shoeing of a horse, by which his master might be further led out of the way of thrift than in his nature he was willing to go”), contrived to place the sum ordered on the floor of an apartment through which he knew the king would pass. James, surprised at the sight of such a quantity of gold, inquired of the treasurer whose money it was, Cecil answered, “your majesty’s before you gave it away.” Whereupon the king fell into a violent passion, complaining bitterly that he had been abused, and throwing himself on the heap, hastily snatched up two or three hundred pounds, and swore that Somerset should have no more. The treasurer, however, prudently judging it necessary for him to steer an even course between the king and the favourite, now began to intercede in favour of the latter; and, with much difficulty, obtained for him half the original sum.’

The particulars of the trials at Winchester,

where the brave Sir Walter Raleigh was afterwards murdered, for so we consider his execution, is curious and interesting; we do not, however, like a note, in which he is stated to have been 'a notorious unbeliever, suspected of atheism.' The recent brutal exhibition of two lion fights at Warwick, when a mercenary showman exposed an animal of the wild species, though tamed, to dogs trained up to cruelty, will serve as an apology for quoting an account of a lion fight before the British Solomon:—

"The king's majesty lodging in the Tower of London, on the 13th of March (after he had surveyed all the offices, store-houses, and the Mint, where both the king and queene coyned money, and gave to divers persons there present), being told of the lions, he asked of their being, and how they came thither, for that in England there were bred no such fierce beasts, whereunto was answered that no mention is made in any record of lions breeding here: nevertheless Abraham Ortelius, and other forraigne writers, do affirme that there are in Englande beasts of as great courage as the lion, namely, the mastiffe dog; whereupon the king caused Edward Alleyn*, late servant to the lord admirall, now sworne the prince's man, and master of the Beare Garden, to fetch secretly three of the fellest dogs in the garden; which being done, the king, queene, and prince, with four or five lords, went to the lion's towre, and caused the lustiest lion to be separated from his mate, and put into the lions' den one dog alone, who presently flew to the face of the lion, but the lion suddenly shooke him off, and graspt him fast by the neck, drawing the dog up staires and downe staires. The king now perceiving the lion greatly to exceede the dog in strength, but nothing in noble heart and courage, caused another dog to be put into the denne, who proved as hot and lusty as his fellow, and tooke the lion by the face, but the lion began to deale with him as with the former; whereupon the king commanded the third dog to be put in before the second dog was spoiled, which third dog, more fierce and fell than eyther of the former, and in despite eyther of clawes or strength, tooke the lion by the lip, but the lion so tore the dog by the eyes, head, and face, that he lost his hold, and then the lion tooke the dog's neck in his mouth, drawing him up and downe as he did the former, but being wearied could not bite so deadly as at the first; now whilst the last dog was thus hand to hand with the lion in the upper roome, the other two dogs were fighting together in the lower roome, whereupon the king caused the lion to be driven downe, thinking the lion would have parted them, but when he saw he must needs come by them, he leaped cleane over them both, and, contrary to the king's expectation, the lion fled into an inward den, and would not by any means endure the presence of the dogs; albeit the last dog pursued eagerly, but could not finde the way to the lyon. You shall understand the two last dogs, whilst the lion held them

both under his pawes, did bite the lion by the belly, whereat the lion roared so extreamely, that the earth shooke withall, and the next lion rampt and roared as if he would have made rescue. The lion hath not any peculiar or proper kinde of fight, as hath the dog, beare, or bull, but only a ravenous kind of surprizing for prey. The two first dogs dyed within a few dayes, but the last dog was well recovered of all his hurts, and the young prince commanded his servant E. Alleyn to bring the dog to him to St. James, where the prince charged the saide Alleyn to keepe him, and make much of him, saying, he that had fought with the king of beastes, should never after fight with any inferiour creature."

On the approaching arrival of James, no pains or expense were spared in getting up pageants for his reception. One of these, as Mr. Nichols observes, displayed a considerable degree of fancy as well as learning. Mr. N. says:—

"We have heard much of the temporary erections for the celebration of the late peace; but they shrink to nothing before the cost of the "Entertainments" prepared for the reception of James. Many of the platforms were of an enormous bulk and height, as were several of the arches. It appears that the citizens began their preparations immediately on the decease of Elizabeth; they were interrupted by the plague, but resumed as soon as the danger was over, and continued to the period of the royal entry. Exclusive of the moulders, plumbers, painters, smiths, &c., who were very numerous, there were employed eighty joiners, sixty carpenters, thirty sawyers, and about seventy common labourers, who wrought without intermission. The whole of the machinery was under the direction of Stephen Harrison, the chief joiner as he is called. The name of Inigo Jones does not occur in the list of architects."

Among the numerous unpublished documents which appear in this work, is one now first printed from the Records of the City of London, which, as Mr. Nichols well observes, 'is particularly curious, as affording a sufficient reason of the precedence, that has long been given to what are usually called the twelve principal companies, and the comparative consequence at that period of the other incorporated companies.' In the present age, when the city spent £24,000 in a single banquet, which was the case when the King (then Prince Regent) with the Emperor of Russia and King of Prussia, &c. dined at Guildhall, in 1814, it seems ridiculous, that fifty-five incorporated bodies should be called upon to raise a sum of £400. Some of these companies, it will be seen, paid nothing, and others were assessed at the paltry sum of four shillings! Nothing, perhaps, exhibits a more striking contrast of the times than this chandler-shop account, when compared with that published of the banquet to which we have alluded. As the periodical publication of this work will afford us many opportunities of noticing it, we shall conclude, for the present, with the document to which we have alluded:—

Names of Companies.	Quarters.	£.	s.	d.
Haberdashers	724	1028	19	02
Marchantailors	936	037	08	9
Mercers	820	032	16	00
Grocers	874	034	19	02
Drapers	768	030	14	04
Fishmongers	565	022	12	00
Gouldsmaythes	809	032	07	02
Skynners	553	022	02	04
Salterers	514	020	11	02
Ironmongers	440	017	12	00
Vyntners	520	020	16	00
Clothworkers	565	022	12	00
Dyers	100	004	00	00
Brewers	200	008	00	00
Lethersellers	200	008	00	00
Pewterers	60	002	08	00
Cutlers	45	001	16	00
Whitebakers	120	004	16	00
Waxechaundlers	20	000	16	00
Tallow-chaundlers	80	003	04	00
Armorsers	10	000	08	00
Girdlers	70	002	16	08
Boutchers	30	001	04	00
Sadlers	90	003	12	00
Carpinters	50	002	00	00
Cordwayners	70	002	16	00
Barber-surgeons	50	002	00	00
Paynter-stayners	11	000	08	09
Curriers	11	000	08	09
Masons	25	001	00	00
Plommers	20	000	16	00
Inhoulders	50	002	00	00
Founders	15	000	12	00
Poulters	20	000	16	00
Cookes	50	002	00	00
Coopers	70	002	16	00
Tylers and bricklayers	20	000	16	00
Bowiers	5	000	04	00
Fletchers	5	000	04	00
Blacksmaythes	16	000	12	09
Joyners	41	001	12	09
Weavers	25	001	00	00
Wollmen	5	000	04	00
Woodmongers	20	000	16	00
Scriveners	70	002	16	00
Fruterers	16	000	12	09
Playsterers	10	000	08	00
Browne-bakers	30	001	04	00
Stationers	100	004	00	00
Imbrotherers	33	001	06	06
Uphoulders	11	000	08	09
Mynstrells	5	000	04	00
Turnors	17	000	15	07
Basketmakers	8	000	05	04
Glasiars	8	000	05	04

Total £400 0 0

* 'These are the assessments of their quotas for providing 10,000 quarters of corn, 25th of February, 1602-3.'

† 'These are the assessments on the severall companies for raising £400, for the full performance and finishing of the pageants, shewes, &c., from the Tower to Temple Barre, against the passage of the king and queene's most excellent majesties through the city, per order common council, 14th February, 1603-4.'

* The celebrated comedian, who was the founder of Dulwich College.

The Lives of Dr. John Donne, Sir Henry Wotton, Mr. Richard Hooker, Mr. George Herbert, and Dr. Robert Sanderson. By IZAAK WALTON. To which are added, the Autographs of those eminent Men, now first collected, an Index, and illustrative Notes. 12mo. pp. 503. London, 1825. Major.

THE publisher of this work is not only Major by name, but, as a tailor would say, he is major by nature, so far as publishing goes, for we know no bookseller in London that has displayed a better taste, or more liberality, in the getting up of works, than he has done: his beautiful edition of Walton's *Angler* was an instance of this, and the present work is a proof of increased attention and liberality. We know booksellers who would not have given half the number of engravings, nor had them executed half so well, and yet, by using a little larger type, and a much larger margin, would have published these *Lives* at three times the price.

Walton's *Lives* rank among the standard works in the English language; they never, however, met us in so attractive a form as at present, for, independently of their being very neatly printed, there are eleven copper-plate engravings, beautifully executed by Heath, Thomson, Bromley, Finden, Mitchell, Engleheart, Ambrose, Warren, Rolls, Romney, &c. from designs by H. Corbould, Bone, Leslie, White, Cooper, the royal academicians, Stephanoff, &c. A prettier collection of engravings we have seldom seen, besides there are fifty-two wood cuts, drawn by W. H. Brooke, R. Thomson, Harvey, J. P. Neale, Findley, R. T. Bone, and engraved by Bonner, H. White, the late W. Hughes, Mosses, &c. Enumerating the names of the artists, respectable as they are, can give our readers no idea of the genius and talent displayed in these engravings, which are really of a very superior description.

In reviewing Walton's *Complete Angler*, we stated that it was not a book merely fit or entertaining for anglers, and we quoted the authority of Sheridan, that he wished for no better post-chaise companion; we may also observe, that the *Lives* do not possess an exclusive charm for churchmen or antiquarians; it is a work which no man who, reading, 'marks, learns, and inwardly digests,' can peruse without advantage, since the choice of his subjects, the fascinations of his style, and the rigidity of his morality, must recommend it to all classes of society. That many of our readers are acquainted with the *Lives* already, we doubt not; but even they can scarcely be sorry to recognise an old friend with a new face, however unusual this may be, while those to whom the work is a novelty may be glad to meet with a few extracts curious and interesting as they certainly are. Before, however, we proceed to these, we must notice an apparent anachronism Mr. Major has committed; he copies the old title of the several *Lives* with his own imprint; thus we find 'The Life of Dr. John Donne, late Dean of St. Paul's Church,' with the name of Mr. Major and the present year subjoined. We have also Sir Henry Wotton, 'late provost of Eton College.' Now

every body who is at all acquainted with the biography of these men, knows that both Donne and Wotton were men of two centuries ago. This is all the fault we have to find with the very beautiful edition of the *Lives*, by Mr. Major, and having thus satisfied our conscience, we can in every other respect say, that it is one of the most charming volumes, in point of subject and embellishment, we have met with.

Dr. Donne, as most of our readers are no doubt aware, was a dean of St. Paul's, and, without any disrespect to individuals, we may safely say, that the cathedral has had less talented and less amiable deans than Dr. Donne. That he was well descended was no merit in him, though he numbered among his progenitors Sir Thomas More, the virtuous lord chancellor, and Judge Rastall, who did what few people but himself would have done—abridged, and that faithfully, the statutes: to most men a dozen years at the tread-mill would have been an act of charity compared to the 'hard labour' of such a task. We are not, however, going to write a life of Dr. Donne, nor need we, perhaps, tell how when he gained a wife and lost a good situation, he concluded a letter to her—

'John Donne, Anne Donne, undone.'

Dr. Donne accompanied Sir Robert Drewry 'a gentleman of a very noble estate and a more liberal mind,' on 'a glorious embassy to the then French king, Henry the Fourth, at Paris:

'Two days after their arrival there, Mr. Donne was left alone in that room, in which Sir Robert, and he, and some other friends had dined together. To this place Sir Robert returned within half an hour; and as he left so he found Mr. Donne alone, but in such an ecstasy and so altered in his looks as amazed Sir Robert to behold him, insomuch that he earnestly desired Mr. Donne to declare what had befallen him in the short time of his absence. To which Mr. Donne was not able to make a present answer: but, after a long and perplexed pause, did at last say, I have seen a dreadful vision since I saw you: I have seen my dear wife pass twice by me through this room, with her hair hanging about her shoulders, and a dead child in her arms: this I have seen since I saw you. To which Sir Robert replied, Sure, sir, you have slept since I saw you, and this is the result of some melancholy dream, which I desire you to forget, for you are now awake. To which Mr. Donne's reply was, I cannot be surer that I now live, than that I have not slept since I saw you; and am as sure that at her second appearing, she stopped, and looked me in the face, and vanished.—Rest and sleep had not altered Mr. Donne's opinion the next day, for he then affirmed this vision with a more deliberate, and so confirmed a confidence, that he inclined Sir Robert to a faint belief that the vision was true.—It is truly said, that desire and doubt have no rest, and it proved so with Sir Robert, for he immediately sent a servant to Drewry House, with a charge to hasten back, and bring him word whether Mrs. Donne were alive; and, if alive, in what condition she was as to her health. The twelfth day the messenger returned with this account—That he found and

left Mrs. Donne very sad, and sick in her bed, and that, after a long and dangerous labour, she had been delivered of a dead child. And, upon examination, the abortion proved to be the same day, and about the very hour that Mr. Donne affirmed he saw her pass by him in his chamber.'

The worthy doctor was of a somewhat eccentric turn, and on the persuasion of Dr. Fox was induced to give orders for his own monument.

'A monument being resolved upon, Dr. Donne sent for a carver to make for him in wood the figure of an urn, giving him directions for the compass and height of it, and to bring with it a board of the just height of his body. "These being got, then without delay a choice painter was got to be in readiness to draw his picture, which was taken as followeth: Several charcoal fires being first made in his large study, he brought with him into that place his winding-sheet in his hand, and having put off all his clothes, had this sheet put on him, and so tied with knots at his head and feet, and his hands so placed as dead bodies are usually fitted, to be shrowded and put into their coffin or grave. Upon this urn he thus stood, with his eye shut, and with so much of the sheet turned aside as might shew his lean, pale, and death-like face, which was purposely turned towards the east, from whence he expected the second coming of his and our Saviour Jesus." In this posture he was drawn at his just height, and when the picture was fully finished, he caused it to be set by his bed-side, where it continued and became his hourly object till his death, and was then given to his dearest friend and executor, Dr. Henry King, then chief residentiary of St. Paul's, who caused him to be thus carved in one entire piece of white marble, as it now stands in that church.'

Of Sir Henry Wotton, who was provost of Eton College, we are told that he—

'Had proposed to himself before he entered into his collegiate life, to write the Life of Martin Luther, and in it the history of the Reformation, as it was carried on in Germany, for the doing of which he had many advantages by his several embassies into those parts, and his interest in the several princes of the empire, by whose means he had access to the records of all the Hans Towns, and the knowledge of many secret passages that fell not under common view, and in these he had made a happy progress, as was well known to his worthy friend Dr. Duppa, the late Reverend Bishop of Salisbury. But in the midst of this design his late majesty King Charles the First, that knew the value of Sir Henry Wotton's pen, did, by a persuasive loving violence—to which may be added a promise of £500 a-year—force him to lay Luther aside, and betake himself to write the History of England, in which he proceeded to write some short characters of a few kings, as a foundation upon which he meant to build, but for the present meant to be more large in the story of Henry the Sixth, the founder of that college, in which he then enjoyed all the worldly happiness of his present being. But Sir Henry

died in the midst of this undertaking, and the footsteps of his labours are not recoverable by a more than common diligence.

'This is some account both of his inclination and the employment of his time in the college, where he seemed to have his youth renewed by a continual conversation with that learned society, and a daily recourse of other friends of choicest breeding and parts, by which that great blessing of a cheerful heart was still maintained, he being always free, even to the last of his days, from that peevishness which usually attends age.

'And yet his mirth was sometimes damped by the remembrance of divers old debts, partly contracted in his foreign employments, for which his just arrears due from the king would have made satisfaction; but being still delayed with court promises, and finding some decays of health, he did, about two years before his death, out of a Christian desire that none should be a loser by him, make his last will, concerning which a doubt still remains, namely, whether it discovered more holy wit or conscionable policy. But there is no doubt but that his chief design was a Christian endeavour that his debts might be satisfied.'

The life of Mr. Richard Hooker we pass over, although it is charmingly written, to quote an anecdote of the pious prebendary of Salisbury cathedral—George Herbert:—

'In another walk to Salisbury, he saw a poor man with a poorer horse, that was fallen under his load; they were both in distress, and needed present help, which Mr. Herbert perceiving, put off his canonical coat, and helped the poor man to unload, and after to load, his horse. The poor man blessed him for it, and he blessed the poor man, and was so like the good Samaritan, that he gave him money to refresh both himself and his horse, and told him, That if he loved himself, he should be merciful to his beast. Thus he left the poor man, and at his coming to his musical friends at Salisbury, they began to wonder that Mr. George Herbert, which used to be so trim and clean, came into that company so soiled and discomposed, but he told them the occasion. And when one of the company told him he had disparaged himself by so dirty an employment, his answer was, that he thought what he had done would prove music to him at midnight, and that the omission of it would have upbraided and made discord in his conscience, whensoever he should pass by that place, for if I be bound to pray for all that be in distress, I am sure that I am bound, so far as it is in my power, to practise what I pray for. And though I do not wish for the like occasion every day, yet, let me tell you, I would not willingly pass one day of my life without comforting a sad soul, or showing mercy, and I praise God for this occasion.'

To these Lives are added numerous illustrative notes, original and select, which are in the same good taste which marks the whole of this really beautiful volume. Of the delicate execution of the wood cuts and the beauty of many of the copperplate engravings, it is impossible to speak too highly.

Remarks on Steam Navigation, and its Protection, Regulation, and Encouragement, in a Letter to the Right Honourable William Huskisson. By THOMAS TREDGOLD, Civil Engineer. 8vo. pp. 31. London, 1825. Longman and Co.

MR. TREDGOLD is an engineer of high reputation, and any observations he may offer on a subject with which he is so well acquainted as steam navigation are entitled to attention. The importance it is acquiring at the present day, when steam vessels are not only employed in the conveyance of mails to Calais, Ostend, Hamburgh, &c. but when one vessel has ventured to India, require that it should be watched with attention. Mr. Tredgold in his pamphlet has for his object the establishing some regulations with a view to the security of the lives and property intrusted in steam passage vessels. As the passengers themselves cannot judge of the degree of security they possess, he thinks some person should be appointed to judge for them, and see that the machinery is not too slight for its power, or constructed of improper materials, or in imperfect repair. Alluding to the effect of the sea on steam vessels, he says:—

'The impulse of the swell of the sea often brings the machine to rest, and the next moment the wheels are left at liberty in the hollow between the waves, and acquire a new momentum to meet the shock of the next billow. In this state the strength of the machinery is tried to the utmost; and failure from deficient strength leaves the vessel completely at the mercy of the elements.

'While a steam-vessel is perfect, its course is not dependant on the winds and waves; and the disposition of its weight, when it is properly disposed, gives it great stability; hence, it is safer than an ordinary sailing vessel in a storm; but as one of these advantages depends on the proper disposition of the weight, and the other on the parts of the engine being of abundant strength, who will not be struck with the hazard of the parts being made too slight to save an expensive material, and of the whole being conducted by presuming ignorance?

'The manufacturers of high reputation, who have hitherto supplied nearly all the steam-boats with engines and machinery, cannot continue to supply the demand; and, therefore, part of them must be supplied from less experienced manufacturers, and be formed by less skilful workmen. They must be obtained from the trading manufacturers, who seek more for profit than for reputation; and the proprietors of steam-boats will require protection as well as their passengers.

'It must be obvious, from the nature of the strains arising from the shocks of the waves, that a tough and elastic material is best adapted for most of the parts of the machinery; and, therefore, malleable iron, which is tough and ductile when its range of elasticity is exceeded, is far superior to cast iron, which is brittle and not so strong. And since malleable iron is not only more expensive, but also more difficult to reduce to the proper forms than cast iron, it will too frequently be rejected when it ought to be used.

'Again, the state of repair, the state of the safety-valves, the care to avoid a risk of fire by construction, and the provision of fire-engines, and boats in case of accidents, each requires to be examined instead of being left to the discretion of the proprietors. For we well know that men seldom provide against contingent evils unless compelled by authority; and will then esteem the compliance with the conditions a hardship, even while the benefit resulting from the enforcement of these conditions is clear and evident, and daily experienced.'

The object of Mr. Tredgold will, however, be best explained by his own exposition:—

'The plan I propose for guarding against any serious accident, as much as possible, is to establish an authorised inspector, of known respectability and reputation in his profession, at each station or port from whence steam-vessels go, and to furnish him with a code of instructions to guide him in the performance of his duty; of which instructions copies should be accessible, at a moderate charge, to the public. And it should be enacted, and be a law, that each master of a steam-vessel should, previous to the departure of his vessel, give notice to the inspector, and allow him full liberty to inspect the vessel and its engines.* Also that the inspector should furnish the master of the vessel with a certificate of such inspection bearing his signature, and the date of inspection, to be placed in a conspicuous part of the vessel, for the perusal and satisfaction of the passengers. This certificate to be granted only on condition of the vessel being in a fit state for her voyage in regard to strength, protection from danger or fire, good condition of boilers and machinery, and proper provision for escape in case of danger; all of which are to be judged of by the rules given in the code of instructions.

'And that this duty may be performed in a proper manner, and without prejudice, I further propose, that a regular report of the state of all vessels examined should be forwarded to the office of a principal superintendent or director in the metropolis, as a check upon the conduct of the reporting inspectors.

'The principal difficulty would arise in forming a code of instructions; but whatever this difficulty may be, it will be an invaluable document, if formed in a proper manner. For that body of instructions, which will enable an inspector to judge of the fitness of a machine, whether of new or old invention, must also be a most perfect guide for the manufacturer: and I presume that no one will venture to assert that any single manufacturer could form an equivalent one to guide his conduct in the manufacture of engines. Hence, the labours of a committee appointed to manage this important department would be a means of perfecting a most desirable improvement in the application of steam or other engines, even were they to furnish only a code of instructions; as they would have it

* 'But for short passages inspection for each time would not be necessary, and, therefore, such vessels should be examined not oftener than once in a month, nor seldomer than once in six weeks.'

in their power to make most of the scientific and practical knowledge in the country instrumental in effecting this object.

"It is scarcely possible for any one, not an engineer, to form an adequate idea of the good that would result from a settled scale of proportions for engines according to their different powers. It would equally guard against the mistakes of those who calculate and the uncertainties of those who guess the bulk that is competent to resist the strains in a steam-vessel. It must render the estimation of expense less difficult, and more certain; and relieve the proprietors of steam-vessels from the trouble of comparing and judging respecting the competency of a specified plan, or of a new engine for a vessel.

"That there is knowledge existing in this country sufficient to give a high degree of perfection to a code of instructions for the manufacture of engines for steam-vessels will not be doubted; but the means of bringing this knowledge to bear on the subject is not quite so obvious. If a set of queries were proposed to men conversant only with the pure sciences, the answers would no doubt be as discordant as those were respecting a project for an arch of six hundred feet span, which was once designed for a bridge across the Thames. On the contrary, if you place before a man of science a fair and clear system of reasoning by which certain proportions and rules have been obtained, and then inquire whether they have been truly and accurately investigated or not, and whether to the best of his judgment any questionable principle has been reasoned upon, then a definite and rational answer would be given. But a professor who has reasoned all his life on the supposition that mechanical bodies are perfectly hard, perfectly smooth, and perfectly inflexible, is not aware of the difference which results from softness, friction, flexibility, temperature, and various other causes well known to practical men; and, therefore, it is too much to expect from him a knowledge of all the circumstances which interfere with the pure mathematical theory of magnitude and velocity, unless they be detailed before him."

No doubt such a plan would be of great service, and we think is called for; there are also some other useful observations in this pamphlet, which we shall refer to those more immediately concerned in the subject. Two facts we shall quote:—

"The first efficient steam-vessel in Britain was started on the Clyde only in 1811; and the rapid advances which has since been making every season, in adding new vessels, in sailing to greater distances, and through heavier seas, at once indicates the value of this application of steam-power, and the necessity of guarding against its abuse. In 1823, there were upwards of one hundred and sixty British-built steam-vessels, and twenty-two of these were of two hundred tons' burden, or upwards."

"The speed attained by steam-packets is best illustrated by a reference to practice. The average length of the voyages of the Holyhead steam-packets for one year, was about seven hours and a-half; the average of

the sailing-packets was fifteen hours. The Edinburgh Castle steam-packet has gone from London to Leith in fifty-eight hours, a distance of four hundred and fifty miles. The Lord Melville steam-packet goes from London Bridge to Calais in eleven or twelve hours; and the General Steam-Navigation Company's packet, the Hylton Jolliffe goes from London to Hamburgh in fifty-seven or fifty-eight hours."

Moderation: a Tale. By MRS. HOFLAND. 12mo. pp. 253. London, 1825.

LITERATURE and morality are alike much indebted to the female writers of the present day, and the Mores, the Edgeworths, the Porters, and the Hoflands, will give to the age a high character for female talent; they have, in fact, with many of their compeers, rescued the sex from the silly sneers of some persons who affected to laugh at the literary pretensions of woman. In society, it was acknowledged that the ladies refined our manners, but we disdained to take precepts from them in books; they have, however, not coaxed us out of that prejudice, but forced our renunciation of it, by clearly showing its injustice. They owe us no thanks for our altered tone or position in the field of literature, for they have fairly won, inch by inch, every foot of ground we have yielded to them.

Of the authors we have named, no one ranks higher, on account of the morality and good feeling displayed in her works, than Mrs. Hofland; she is, indeed, the oracle of the virtues, through whom each speaks most eloquently in its own behalf. Her readers have successively seen the plea of 'Integrity,' 'Patience,' 'Decision,' and we know not how many more virtues in her other tales, urged with almost irresistible force and persuasion, and we are now called on to examine the claim of *Moderation*.

This little work contains many excellent sentiments, and displays much of that intimate knowledge of human nature, for which this lady's writings are so remarkable; but there is rather too close a resemblance between it and some of her former productions. As the principal merit of the tale consists in details of characters, its chief interest would be lost in an abridgment, and we must therefore content ourselves with giving one short extract, merely premising that Emma is the heroine of the story:—

"You are certain, Emma, that your father so mentioned me in his last moments?" said Miss Tintagell, when they were alone together some time afterwards.

"Oh! yes, every syllable is impressed on my heart, my very ear I may say, too minutely for mistake."

"Well, it is dear to my heart to be so remembered, even now—Emma, I will tell you the history of that heart.—I am naturally of a proud and independent spirit, such a spirit as rarely suits the situation, or can be rendered compatible with the happiness of woman. Having no one to guide me, I should have been worse than I was, if I had not been rendered by circumstances the natural guardian of your mother, on whom all

the warmth and fondness of my heart expended itself. I set out with a profession that I would live single, and though fond of general admiration and laying myself out for general homage, was never guilty of coquetry—nor did I in fact ever see a man that shook my resolution by inspiring even the most trivial liking, till I knew your father."

"I will not say what my sense of his person, his virtues, his manners, was. I only tell you that happily I soon discovered which way his affections veered—discovered too that your mother fondly loved him. It was believed that my family pride would oppose their wishes—that pride had got other work to do, and together with that tender and unbounded love I had for my sister, it enabled me to act as I did—yes, I made two people as happy as marriage ever made any two on earth, I really believe."

"They were indeed singularly happy," said Emma.

"Well, my dear, it so happened that after this I had two offers, either of which would have given me rank which at that time it is certain I envied, and wealth, which is always valuable to those who love to spend and to give, which it is certain I do, and my own fortune, though more than twice as large as your mother's, was very unequal to my wants, and the circle in which I moved. But in the mean time I had nursed my former objections to marriage, became more of a wit and less of a beauty, and whilst I affected to ridicule all love, nourished in my heart the silly belief that a woman can love but once, and, in consequence, I refused them both."

"And do you now regret that you did?"

"I do not, for I firmly believe that women of my description are better single. I had established in my heart a certain model, to which no man would have been a parallel; I should have been haughty, self-willed, and unconciliating, capable of great sacrifices, but not of the petty obediences which are the sweetest emollients to the unbending nature of lordly man. Besides the smallness of my fortune, compared to that of the noblemen to whom I allude, would have been galling to me. I should have been taken from my sister and her family, who have found me useful, and have been to me invaluable; and as I can now, unblamed, love, and weep as I will, I by no means regret that I am single."

"I am fully convinced you are much more happy; at least, I would hope so, my dear, dear aunt," said Emma, embracing her with a daughter's fondness.

"Yes, I am, but this is owing to my peculiarities, or my faults rather—you, Emma are of a precisely different character."

"I have been very differently situated; as one of a large family, with neither the honours of the eldest, nor the privileges of the youngest, I was happily saved from improper indulgences, and taught to consider, to submit.—I was habituated to make my taste bend to my circumstances, and led both by precept and example to hold consideration as a religious duty, which therefore carried its own reward with it. I should be very

inexcusable indeed, were I not disciplined to moderation."

"Being so, you *must* marry, Emma,—don't shake your head with that sceptical air; you do not suppose that I would thus have torn open old wounds, and exposed past weaknesses, and lingering through hidden sorrows but for some end—I know your secret without confession, you have loved Charles Melville, and most probably he has loved you; but he is bound by gratitude to his uncle, and pity for his cousin, in another direction. I have heard that the voyage to Madeira has done wonders for her, and that in May they will return: if this is true, perhaps they will marry."

"Probably," said Emma, with a blanched and somewhat quivering lip, but her eye did not elude the gaze of her aunt.

"Now as you have struggled with your feelings, and are almost a conqueror, can you not be wholly so?—can you not listen to the suit of a virtuous, amiable man, who is moreover a nobleman, one whose parents love you, and will receive you with honour and affection. I mean—you know who I mean, you must have been sensible of his admiration?"

"It is Lord Hatchlands—I am very sorry for it, for I like him exceedingly; I know no one whom I esteem so highly amongst our acquaintance."

"The very best principle on which to found affection, Emma, such an affection as producing all the dearest ties of life, and its most extensive usefulness, you are calculated to inspire and enjoy. Besides, all your family are married or marrying, of course all are to a certain degree resigning you. At three and twenty you do not feel this, but at three and thirty you will be sensible of it—depend upon it such an offer as this, or I ought to say, such a predilection as this, ought to be received as the promise of no light blessing—it may be admitted slowly, canvassed closely, considered long: all this I allow you, but do not dare to reject it, if you value your own happiness, the general advantage of your family, and my regard."

"That I think as highly of these motives as most people, I surely need not say at this time, but I am sure you will concede, that on such a point as this, I ought to consider myself in the first place."

"Unquestionably, child—I know that I speak too strongly, but it is because I feel too warmly. I will, however, release you, and prescribe to myself silence for the present; but think, Emma think!"

An Account, Historical, Political, and Statistical, of the United Provinces of Rio de la Plata.

(Concluded from p. 546.)

THE merit of this work consists rather in its official, documentary, and statistical information, than in the interest of its details. Little has been known of the country of which it treats—a country acquiring every day additional importance on account of the war with Brazil, in which it will, in a few months, almost inevitably be drawn, owing to the insurrection in the Banda Oriental and the

seizure of Monte Video a few years ago, and the annexation of it to Brazil. The provinces of Rio de la Plata (we wish the republic had a shorter name) scarcely need fear the contest, for whatever there may be in Europe, in America there is no 'divinity to hedge round a king,' but, on the contrary, he is looked upon with suspicion; and, without any remarks as to the relative merits of governments, we feel assured that the vast continent of the new world will never rest quiet or satisfied while the only monarchy it has, that of Brazil, is suffered to exist; besides, there is an almost universal jealousy of the Emperor of Brazil, and, to say the truth, he is so ill descended, that we are not surprised at it. The Bourbons and their alliances have never been remarkable for their integrity. On the subject of the present dispute between the republic of Rio de la Plata and Brazil, and the conduct of the latter, our author speaks strongly. Speaking of the conduct of the Brazilians towards Monte Video, he says:—

"That they have violently pillaged the country, and, under the authority of the general, of more than four million head of vicuñas, which have been sent to the Brazilian territory, as is proved by the estimates made at the collecting houses in the passes of the frontiers. And, with reference to this point, I will state two curious circumstances. Before 1817, in the captain-generalship of Rio Grande, belonging to Brazil, distant one hundred and twenty leagues from Monte Video, there were no more than thirteen salters, and now there are one hundred and twenty! Before the entrance of the Portuguese, the country of Monte Video was more abundant in cattle than any other in that part of America; and now even the Brazilians, who are settling there, are forced to bring cattle from their own territory, to lay the foundation of their breeding establishments!"

"That, following the plan of peopling the country with Brazilians, whose numbers now exceed one thousand five hundred, the general took away the lands from the natives, and assigned them to others, without giving the smallest compensation; but, on the contrary, making them understand that he did so in the course of justice. The persons who have peopled the Uruguay and Tacuarembó are proofs of this, whom the natives distinguish by the nick-name of *estancieros intrusos*, or interlopers."

"That the province is not only not indebted for any public work to the invaders, but that, on the contrary, these very persons have ruined almost all the public works which it possessed prior to their entrance. The stone walls which inclosed the city, and were formerly a place of security and of recreation, are now only a haunt for rats, being full of breaches in the whole extent. All the batteries which clothed these same walls are destroyed, excepting one which commands the port. The arsenal, which was a fine building, is now no more than a shell. The barracks, including those of the citadel, and the guard-houses, which were once placed round the walls, are abandoned, and now abound but with filth and all kinds of reptiles. There is not a single establishment for recreation

in existence; and thus, in every point of view, is Monte Video a decaying colony, oppressed with poverty, where the inhabitants live in a complete state of isolation, without exhibiting any signs of rationality, excepting by the houses in which they shelter themselves from the inclemencies of the weather."

"But what is more, the light-house, placed on the top of the famous mountain which stands in front of Monte Video, and which, for many years, served as a guide for navigation during the night, is now of no use. I can narrate a singular fact with regard to this topic. In 1819, the Portuguese general pledged himself to construct a light-house in the island of Flores, five leagues distant from Monte Video, situated between the coast and the Banco Ingles: but in order to prove that the Portuguese nation never did, and never would do, anything beneficial for the natives of that province, which was not executed at the expense of enormous sacrifices on their part, it was required that the municipality in return should declare the right of Portugal to a greater portion of territory, advancing its limits to a straight line drawn from the Yaguaron to the Arepey, which empties itself into the Uruguay, the boundaries of that straight line being on the side of the sea, Santa Teresa, and the lake of Mini. Here we behold, for the first time in the world, territories exchanged for a light-house, and also a light-house becoming the basis of a treaty of limits between two foreign states. But the result of all this is, that the light-house never was, and never will be made, and the light-house Portuguese government did nothing but make the treaty."

"Finally, it is necessary to inform you that another of the great favours which the Brazilians have conferred on Monte Video is, the obligation they imposed on the proprietors on different occasions to assist in the maintenance of its army by forced loans, under the deplorable alternative of giving money, or of going to a dungeon; and that, after a series of years, during which no one gained anything, in consequence of the paralyzed state of interior and exterior commerce, and every person was in a comparative state of pecuniary destitution. This is too well proved by the decrease in the public revenue of the province. Prior to that invasion, the custom house of Monte Video produced from forty to fifty thousand dollars annually; subsequently to it, and at this very time, it yields little more than twenty thousand. From this cause the Bank of Janeiro was obliged to supply funds for the support of the army; or rather for the purse of the general; because the army mutinied several times for the recovery of its pay! and now, since there are no further means of extorting more from the natives, Brazil has again been under the necessity of coming forward with twenty-five thousand dollars a month, being enabled to do so by the loan which she has negotiated in England. What a fine destiny for such a loan! These and such like objects, in which the whole loan will be expended, will give a prosperity to Brazil, which may serve as a guarantee to her loanholders, as flattering, under all its aspects, as that presented by

Spain and by Portugal to their money contractors.'

With regard to the causes of the revolution in Rio de la Plata—causes, God knows, sufficient to provoke any people to revolt, and of the present state of the republic, our author gives much interesting information, particularly in what relates to the constitution, laws, &c. of this republic. Politics, however, form a very small portion of our plan, and, after stating the nature of the work, we had rather seek elsewhere for extracts—even dive to the bottom of the ocean or run a race on land to get an account of the productions of the Rio negro on the Patagonian coast:—

'The amphibious animals have been hitherto the only production which foreigners have turned to advantage. Among these the sea-elephant ought to have the first place. The male of that species, when it has attained its full bulk, is from seven to seven and a half varas in length, and from five to five and a half in circumference. The females never exceed four varas in length, with proportionate thickness. Its formation is like that of the rest of the phoca genus, differing only in the head, which is smaller in proportion. The large males go out on the beach in August, September, and October, sooner or later, according as the spring has been more or less cold. At their cry the females assemble in a gang around the strongest male; and, if any rival comes, they fight terribly, until the one overcome again betakes himself to the sea. The females produce on land, during these months, one, but rarely two young, which at first are black, and retain that colour three weeks or a month, during which time they suck. Afterwards they change their hair to a dark gray; they are then abandoned by their mothers, who rut, become with cub again, and betake themselves to the sea, as well as the large males. The young ones go in gangs of from fifty to sixty, and always remain two months on the shore. The males and females of a year old quit the sea in November and December, change their hair, and remain a month, or a month and a half on shore. During the rest of the year some of them quit the sea, but in small numbers, and in general lean. It is worthy of remark, that while these animals remain out of the sea, which sometimes is for the space of from two months and a half to three, they eat nothing.

'The killing of these animals commences with the first which leave the sea in September. The fishermen, armed with spears, approach a gang. The females, which are sometimes at a distance from the male, draw near to him, in order that he may defend them. He rises on his fins, shows his tusks, and makes a horrible noise, but all in vain; his weight renders his strength useless, and the fishermen pierce him with their spears in the breast. If at first he does not fall, finding himself wounded, he covers the wound with a fin going backwards till he dies. The females crowd together, and, as they offer no resistance, the business of death is soon over with the whole group. The fat is found between the skin and the flesh, and is some-

times six inches thick; and the blubber is extracted by frying the fat. The skin is of no use whatever. Some elephants have yielded as much as two pipes of blubber.

'The sea-lion, or pelucon, is from four to five varas in length, with a head more bulky in proportion than the elephant. The males have a mane; and, as they are infinitely more nimble than the elephants, and it is dangerous to attack them with spears, they are generally killed with fire-arms. In their manner of living they resemble the elephants last-mentioned; only with this difference, that they go more frequently into the sea. As the sea-lions have but very little fat, and their skin is of inconsiderable value, they are not persecuted, and are, therefore, very numerous. Some of them go from the sea to the smooth head-lands on the banks of the North; but their principal rendezvous is on the shores of the south, in the vicinity of San Antonio and San José.

'The sea-wolf, with two kinds of hair, is a vara and a half in length; and has a dark gray fur, long and coarse, which covers another that is very fine; and it is this that makes it valuable. Their manner of living is the same as that of the lions. They are killed with sticks; but, having been very much persecuted, they have become extremely fierce; and on the least alarm they plunge into the sea, not rising again for the distance of more than half a league. At present there are some of them in the bay of Buenos Cables, to the north of the river Negro, and in some places between San Antonio and San José.

'The sea-wolf, with one kind of hair, is somewhat larger than the former: it has only one sort of fur, very ordinary and dark gray. As they are of no value, they are left unmolested, and are therefore not so fierce as the others.'

As Monte Video is likely to occupy no ordinary share of attention, we subjoin an account of it in conclusion, merely remarking, that the work is embellished with an excellent map of the republic, and a plan of Buenos Ayres:—

'This province, favoured by nature, as if it had been selected for the display of fertility and beauty, is not less important on account of its geographical situation, at the mouth of the River de la Plata, forty leagues distant from the capital city of Buenos Ayres, but only ten from the coast. It is situated in 34° 54' 48" south lat. and 56° 13' 30" west long. according to observations made in February of this year; and borders on the rivers La Plata and Uruguay, and on Brazil on the south and west. Its climate, which has sensibly improved during the last forty years, is temperate and humid; but as that quality is moderated by the invariably dry land winds from the north-west—commonly called pasajeros, because they pass through the open plains of Buenos Ayres—and by its proximity to the ocean, the temperature of its atmosphere is the most healthy possible. In the year 1810, that province numbered a population of from sixty to seventy thousand souls, including that of the city, which was not less than twenty thousand. At present,

however, it scarcely contains from forty to fifty thousand; that is ten thousand in the city, and the remainder in the country, which is of immense extent; since, even allowing the arbitrary limits assigned to it by Brazil in 1819 to remain unchanged, it would comprise one hundred and thirty Castilian leagues from north to south, and about ninety from east to west. There are many inhabited places in it, as Maldonado, Colonia, Sta. Lucia, Camelonos, Sn. Jose, Sn. Carlos, Soriano, and Cerro Largo, which are all towns; and the villages are Toledo, Pando, Rocha, Penarol, Piedras, Sn. Salvador, Minas, Florida, Porongos, Colla, Bacas, Vivoras, Espinilla, Mercedes, Paisandú, and Hervidera. The decrease of population was occasioned by the war with Spain, which in that territory was carried on as in no other part of the united provinces: by the civil war which raged there, and produced that anarchy which the neighbouring foreigners took care to excite during the revolution against Spain, and also by the domination of the Portuguese or Brazilians, which appears to be one and the same thing, from which, being universally detested, the natives have fled in great numbers, emigrating to the other provinces. Monte Video was peopled, less than a century ago, by a colony sent from Buenos Ayres. At that time the country was occupied by a multitude of barbarous Indians, of whom now remain only the very few who live in the remote parts, known by the name of Charreacas. The new colonists found the country abounding with vicuñas. Since that time the soil, fertile in all parts, even in the mountains with which it abounds, appears to have been used particularly for grazing, its cattle having continued all along to be the staple branch of the commerce of Monte Video, not only by reason of the exportation of vicuña and horse-hides, but also of salted meat and tallow. Monte Video at one time possessed thirty-three establishments for curing meat, each of them killing at least one hundred head of cattle daily, without that consumption being felt in regard to the vicuña, the multiplication of which race is assisted there by an infinite variety of natural circumstances. The whole country abounds in excellent pastures, and not a single spot of ground is left waste. The pastures are of excellent quality, and fertilized in an astonishing manner by the irrigation of many rivers, rivulets, and springs. At each step the traveller finds himself agreeably surprised by meeting with streams of pure and salubrious water, which tend to enhance the charms of the surrounding scenery, consisting of a constant succession of hills, eminences, meadows, wilds, rugged defiles, and mountains, with which all the territory abounds. The principal rivers are, the Uruguay, Negro, Ybicui, Cebollati, Yi, Sta. Lucia, Guegisay, Diaman, Arapei, Guarey, Olimar, Pardo, Tacuari, Yguaron, and Tacuarembó. The immense currents of these rivers are formed by more than two hundred rivulets, many of them very considerable, which run in all directions, excepting an elevated ridge of land which crosses the whole province, and is called Cuchilla grande, as will be seen by a

reference to the annexed map. Almost all these rivers might be made navigable, through the greatest part of their course, with little trouble. Those that are now easily navigated are the Uruguay, Negro, Cebollati, and Sta. Lucia. As the grazing business produces such immense profit to those who possess capitals laid out in estates, agriculture has occupied them but little, as a matter of speculation; nevertheless, the lands are capable of producing abundantly, and without labour, all kinds of grain, fruit, and vegetables.

'The province of Monte Video is at present occupied by the troops of Brazil, against the will of its legitimate masters.'

ORIGINAL.

THE CHURCHES OF ST. GILES IN THE FIELDS, AND ST. GILES, CRIPPLEGATE; WITH THEIR SACRED RELICS—MARVEL, MILTON, SPEED, AND FOX.

If we except the two great cathedral churches, and that of the Temple, perhaps the church of St. Giles, Cripplegate, or St. Giles in the Fields, in days past, may be considered the more interesting. The latter stands between the east and the west—the emporium of commerce and the world of fashion, as a point where both might meet to perform duties alike called for in each; and it is so surrounded by beggary and vice, in its immediate precincts, as to show new views of life alike to the wealthy merchant and the stately aristocrat. The statesman might, from its battlements, contemplate improvements for Ireland, and plans of reformation for England, and the philanthropist peer into garrets where disease and poverty are exhibited in every stage of existence, from the child that cries for bread, to the aged beggar who groans for assistance. The perpetual current of human life, rushing continually past its walls, resembles a strait in which a mighty river concentrates its ever-moving waters; and, although it must be allowed that the stream is, for the most part, turbid, and what many persons might call 'the dregs of society,' yet it is certain that splendid carriages, containing the great and the fair, occasionally swell the tide, and sparkle for a moment, like shining bubbles in the darksome mass. Notwithstanding the ignorance of Mr. Croker, as to the latitude of Russel Square, we are persuaded that few persons, even of fashion, have not navigated this vulgar outlet; and, if they have not, we may venture to assert that they ought to do it.

That the tens of thousands who swarm around the gates of St. Giles should never turn up their eyes, to contemplate the matchless piece of art with which they are ornamented, is perfectly natural; but surely that class of persons who affect taste, and those who travel to indulge it, might make a pilgrimage from St. James's, once in their lives, to visit this. And what can we say of that very extensive and communicative class, the patriotic public, who walk or drive past the place where the bones of Andrew Marvel repose without giving a grateful sigh to his memory?

While examining, as it well deserves, the

beautiful sculpture that adorns the gate, and paying a tribute of respect to the memory of the most incorruptible of senators, the visitor ought not to forget that another worthy, who lived in the same age, though of humbler circumstances, is buried in this churchyard—Richard Pendril, the faithful guide to whom Charles II. was indebted for liberty and perhaps life after the fatal battle of Worcester. Nor would we have him stop here, but venture eastward; and, if his topographical knowledge is as limited as Mr. Croker affected his to be, let him buy a map of London, or, throwing himself into a coach, order the driver to set him down at the door of another church, devoted to the same saint, in Cripplegate, where many of the 'elder worthies,' as Dr. Southey would say, lie among 'The surfeit-slain fools, common dung of the soil.'

Though many speed on, without remembering that Speed the historian lies here, some should be found grateful for his researches, and aware that from his folio has sprung a race of duodecimos, each of which, in its day and generation, contributed to enlighten readers, and pay printers; and to his 'cloud of witnesses' surely the religious part of the world owes especial gratitude. Can any true Protestant, in these times of renewed controversy, hurry past St. Giles's, and forget that there lies Fox the martyrologist, whose simple record of Bonner's judgments and Smithfield horrors has done more, in days past, towards abolishing popery, than all the bayonets and the arguments ever produced to defend it. In many a retired corner of the land, where new tracts of divinity and village libraries are still unknown, this mighty treasure constitutes the divinity, history, and novelty of the place—passing from sire to son, and from one family to another, as a book that must be read once in a life by every man, and twice by every woman. How many of these simple souls, who have wept over fires long since extinguished, and nourished indignation for those they believe to be burning now, would gladly walk many a wearisome mile to cast their eyes on the spot where *he* reposes, who has awakened by turns every emotion of which their hearts were capable, and established them in that faith they feel to be invaluable!—how little do they dream that so many professing it should run every day by the honoured spot in ignorance of its existence.

Surely the young—the fair—the sentimental, should pay a decided tribute of respect to the memory of Andrew Marvel; for, if they had no particular regard for his political integrity, they must love the writer of William and Margaret, the very sweetest ballad* our language can boast, without excepting even Auld Robin Gray. Who can forget the soft reasonings of the fair ghost, retaining, even in death, the pleading tenderness of the injured lover:—

* Is not the authorship of this ballad doubtful. It has been claimed by Mallet, but an older copy, somewhat different, is said to be known, and was reprinted a few years ago.—ED.

'Why did you say my lips were red?
Yet made the scarlet pale,
And why did I, poor witless maid,
Believe the flattering tale?

'How could you say my face was fair,
And yet that face forsake?
How could you win my virgin heart,
Yet leave that heart to break?

To those who are long accustomed

'To hold high converse with the mighty dead,' not only in their works, but in the hour of lonely meditation (when spirit meets spirit, despite of the lapse of time, or the distance of country), it must be mortifying that they cannot pace the 'long-drawn aisle,' where the bones of Milton moulder, undisturbed by that 'busy hum of men,' which paralyses the powers of imagination, and clouds even those of memory. We can meditate on the great poet much better in our own back-parlours than on the spot where Whitbread placed his bust, doing honour to his own taste and liberality, not less than to the immortal bard. It ought to be the pleasant duty of us, who live in more enlightened times than those when the 'blind schoolmaster's' immortal epic poem sold for five pounds, to recognise and honour him wherever we trace him, on the principle of doing justice to our age and ourselves, by showing our knowledge of his works, and our gratitude for them.

As a poet of most lofty imagination, magnificent conception, exquisite delicacy, and deep tenderness—of most original and daring genius, combined with pastoral purity of thought, and an harmonious flow of numbers, developing the very soul of music, Milton must ever remain impressed upon our minds as a star of unequalled lustre: but perhaps another century will pass, before he receives the meed of admiration to which he is entitled, when, all his prose being consigned to oblivion (even the last new discovery), men will estimate his poetical works as they merit, and forget the polemics and politics, which it is our pain to remember. That Milton was an honest, upright man, we all doubt not; but we forget to honour his integrity, from our remembrance of his alliance with fanaticism, his display of cold-heartedness towards his wife and daughters, and the acrimony of disposition which led so high minded a man to bend even his theological opinions into the service of his selfishness and ill temper. Posterity may lose these memorials, and see in the poet all that is loveable in the man, for it is certain that they will find, in his descriptions of human and angelic nature, so much of grandeur and of pathos, as ought not only to enlarge and exalt their minds, but should move and captivate their hearts.

If, in the hurry of business, the carelessness of pleasure, the indolence of wealth, or the pressure of poverty, many are found unmindful of the dead, in the two churches dedicated to St. Giles, the same cannot be said of their attentions to the living of one of them, as the crowds which assemble to attend the preaching of the new rector of St. Giles in the Fields abundantly testifies. Proof that merit meets its reward, in some cases, is also

given, in the fact of this gentleman's advancement, since it is certain that he owes it to no other medium than his talents as an elegant and popular preacher, calculated to do much good, and alike removed from the enthusiasm of Milton's times and the apathy of those which succeeded them—from both of which may the enlightened good sense and the sober good feeling of the present times preserve us. B.

MUMMERY FOR GROWN GENTLEMEN NOT ARRIVED AT YEARS OF DISCRETION.

To the Editor of the Literary Chronicle.

SIR,—I cannot help thinking that the idea of reviving justs and tournaments, suggested in your journal, a short time since, in the article on Crusaders, page 474, far from a happy one. No one can suppose that, by such a solemn piece of *make-believe*, we should advance—perhaps retrograde, a single step towards the age of chivalry. Nor would our young nobility look at all more respectable in the eyes of the world, by condescending to act like so many stage-players, *pro bono publico*, at a day-light masquerade; or, *à la Dymoke*; or like the man in armour at my lord mayor's show. To attempt to revive the institutions of former ages, after their spirit is worn out, is hopeless and childish: we might as well say, as the French did in the heat of their revolution, let us get up a grand national farce, and all set about playing Greeks and Romans; which notable idea was attended with just the same kind of success as the renowned ancient banquet given by the learned doctor, in Peregrine Pickle; or, if we must act, we might as well have London's chief magistrate make his annual procession in the style of a Roman triumph, with a slave behind him, to utter, from time to time, the useful monition in his ear, that a lord mayor is, after all, but a man. Or else we might make a grand holiday, and crown Dr. Southey, in Guildhall, in imitation of Petrarch's being crowned in the capitol:—there is one part of the ceremony which, perhaps, the laureat would object to, namely, that where, after partaking of a sumptuous banquet, the illustrious Italian poet danced with bells tied to his arms and legs. Extravagant as all this is, it strikes me as being not a whit more so, than to propose that an English gentleman, of the nineteenth century, should buckle on the armour of a knight of the fourteenth, and do that out of mummery, that his ancestors did in sober earnestness. Horse-races have succeeded to tournaments: perhaps it is a pity, yet we do not see how we can now very well substitute the latter for the former; or what we should gain if we could. A man cannot become a child again, by playing with a child's rattle; neither can nations, any more than individuals, recall, by an omnipotent *fiat*, the past eras of their existence. We might as well follow the example of the Knight of La Mancha, take crooks in our hands, and turn shepherds, sing pastorals from morning till night, and make love in the Arcadian style. Some persons, I must confess, appear very fond of this species of humbug. They even like to have their portraits in masquerade; a

fine lady chooses to be painted in the character of a gipsy; a demirep as a Diana; and a citizen's wife as a shepherdess, with a crook and two lambs at her feet; or, if we must be aping, some of our fashionable clubs might take a hint from that gentle namby-pamby institution, the Accademia Degli Arcadi of the Italians.

So far am I from desiring to revive obsolete customs and ceremonies, that I would rather advise that we should get rid, as fast as we prudently can, of many of those vestiges of antiquity, that at the present day serve only to throw an air of ridicule upon some of the most solemn institutions. Of these, the law among others has its full share; and had it less of what it terms *fictions*, alias farce and *make-believe* (*tromperie*, trumpery), it might perhaps be as well for the community. We have already witnessed the expiration of birth-day odes, and hoops at court, and, in all probability, the laureatship itself will follow them. A writer of charades and tea-table poetry chooses to be represented *à la* Byron without a cravat; and a milliner with mustacheos. There are, also, many other notable customs that might safely be despatched to that bourn from which no tournaments will return. After all, why should we repine, because we cannot have the same amusements as our forefathers? We have many of which they had no idea. 'Tis true, even Ranelagh is gone, and Vauxhall is going, but we have Almack's and the Opera. At this time of day, to wish for tilting matches, is pretty much the same as wishing for those times when princesses were washerwomen.

ANTI-HUMBUG.

BALLOON ASCENT.

THE ascents of our aeronauts, of late years, have been as like each other as peas, and their narratives the essence of dulness: they state that they ascended, reached an altitude of two miles, and then came down again. No attempt whatever has been made at scientific discovery, or discovery of any sort, except how to render these flights as cheap and as profitable as possible. Within the last ten days, however, two gentlemen have made an ascent, with other objects; the one, Mr. Thomas R. Jolliffe, the author of Letters from Palestine; and the other, M. Cornillot, is a French gentleman, who, we believe, exhibited some curious scientific experiments in London a year or two ago. The following account of the ascent is extracted from a letter written by Mr. Jolliffe to his brother:

'My dear brother,—It has been very correctly stated, in the public prints, that the objects of M. de Cornillot and myself, in our aerial excursion from the neighbourhood of Sevenoaks, embraced other views than those of mere adventurous curiosity. These I will shortly attempt to explain, after detailing some of the incidents connected with the ascent. It was our wish, *during this first essay*, to secure as retired a spot for the experiment as could be engaged within a moderate distance of the metropolis; and a farm in the beautiful little village of Seal was ultimately selected, as combining many of the most es-

sential requisites: yet, even in that sequestered situation, it soon became impossible to disguise our intentions; the report quickly circulated in the adjoining hamlet, and, on the day preceding that fixed for our departure, a considerable concourse had assembled to witness the process of inflation, which, from the unusual size of the balloon, took nearly twenty hours to complete. On the following morning, several thousands attended, at an early hour, and waited with the utmost patience and good humour during a very tiresome and protracted ceremony. At length, between five and six o'clock in the evening, we adjusted the car, and proceeded with as little delay as possible to arrange whatever else was necessary for an immediate ascent. When first loosened from the cords which fixed it to the ground, the machine made a movement so irregular as to excite something like an expression of disappointment; but the next instant, as if sensible of the reproach, it bounded upwards with an elastic spring, which called forth a shout of acclamation, so loud and general, that the air rang with its animating echos. As we continued to ascend with considerable velocity, the sounds quickly died away; and I could just discern what, a few moments before, appeared a compact mass, suddenly starting forwards in varied and irregular groups, towards some imagined point to which we seemed verging. On attaining a mile in height—in conformity with established usage, and in justice to my own feelings, we drank to the health of our accomplished sovereign, and the British royal family. A similar mark of respect was afterwards offered (in compliment to my companion) '*sa la majesté très Chrétienne*'—to the Duchess of Berri, and the infant hope of France; to the illustrious house of Montmorency; and to the Vicomte de Chateaubriand. On dismissing more of our ballast, we rapidly increased our distance from the earth's surface, and finally reached an elevation which, according to the computation of Mr. C., considerably exceeded three miles.*

I have no language to describe the magnificence of the scenery unfolded from this lofty eminence. The vast abyss beneath, when the shadows of night began to gather round, presented a character of terrific sublimity; but, while the sun remained in the heavens, and the glories of an expanded firmament were illustrated by his rays, without a single cloud in the whole visible horizon to obstruct the field of vision, the combined feeling of wonder, awe, and adoration, was the emotion which filled my heart. Words are but feeble instruments to express sensations under circumstances such as these; yet, if I might be pardoned the egotism of quoting from a nar-

* In this elevated region the aeronauts felt no difficulty of respiration; but their sense of hearing was chiefly affected. The balloon is of such spacious dimensions as to comprehend a circumference of ninety feet; yet they were subsequently assured, that at one period it seemed as if diminished to the size of a cricket ball! The machine was constructed under the scientific direction of Mr. Cornillot, assisted by the active and intelligent exertions of the Messrs. Feal, Hampstead Road.

rative which the public has marked with some degree of approbation, I would observe, that in such a situation the spectator, whose mind is sufficiently braced for its enjoyment, loses for awhile all sense of individual weakness: his faculties feel, as it were, an enlarged vitality; and he dwells with a rapturous enthusiasm on the splendours by which he is encompassed, till their united glories torture the imagination, and the sense aches with gazing.

Our descent engaged us about twenty minutes. The machine at first fell in the centre of a hop-garden, the poles of which drove with such violence through the car as to disable me, my face and leg bleeding profusely from the concussion, from holding the apparatus sufficiently firm to enable my friend to effect his escape; and, on recovering from a momentary stupefaction, I had the indescribable anguish to see him tower aloft—the grappling-iron lost, the ballast all expended, and his communication with the valve, as I feared, quite cut off. I would at that instant willingly have parted with a limb to have secured his safety. Happily, in less than ten minutes the balloon gradually sunk, as if by its own exhaustion, in a field of oats, the proprietor of which, with great kindness and generosity, positively refused any pecuniary compensation for the damage incurred by the trampling of two or three hundred persons who came to assist us. Anxiety, and the exertion of violent running, had so increased the injury I received to my leg, that I was almost incapable of walking much farther, when Mr. Ayres, of Lower Grosvenor Street, who happened to be passing on the road, most obligingly conveyed me in his carriage to Sevenoaks, where the attentions of the mistress of the Oak Inn, and the subsequent direction of Mr. Kelson enabled me to proceed to town without the least inconvenience.

It had often occurred to me, that it might be very practicable, by an adroit adjustment of the ballast, to render the machine, on its attaining a certain elevation, almost stationary for a given time; and that at all events (except during the agitations of a storm), it might be made to float in a horizontal direction, towards whatever quarter, the current of air should impel its course. The late experiment has powerfully served to confirm such theory.—Our balloon continued at a stated point, without any perceivable change either in its exaltation or decline; slowly revolving in very small circles, and turning as if on its own pivot. The very heavy expense, absolutely inevitable as the machines are at present constructed, will necessarily confine all speculative exertion to the circles of the affluent; but the combined talent of the chemist and the mechanic, will gradually suggest successive improvements; and I look forward, with something like confidence, to no very remote period, when—

‘To sail in the air,
When the sun shines fair,
Over woods, high rocks, and fountains,
Over hills, and misty mountains,
Over steeples, towers, and turrets—’

may become as popular and fashionable an engagement as any of those pursuits which

now so eagerly attract the patronage of the noble and the wealthy. If we carry our anticipations a little further, and seriously contemplate the maturity of an art, which is yet only in the trammels of infancy, who shall venture to assign a limit to its operations? Who will hazard the assertion that something of incalculable utility may not hereafter be derived from its exercise—or call in question the mighty benefits, which await their development, in the unopened volumes of destiny?

ORIGINAL POETRY.

TO MISS LUBY,

After having read her beautiful Poem, entitled The Spirit of the Lakes; or, Mucross Abbey.
OFT, at that hour when evening's purple glow
Sheds its dark lustre on the glen below,
Whilst clustering clouds, in blushing radiance fly

O'er the light azure of the vesper sky;
Hast thou not marked—on that romantic isle,
Where Genius woo'd thee with her loveliest smile—

Some lingering sunbeams their last farewell take,
From the still bosom of thy native lake?

Seen the pale crescent in the pure wave glow,
Where star, and streak, and cloud, their light forms throw?

So brilliant, clear, and true, the sketch is given,
We almost think it is another heaven:—

Thus,—in the magic tints which thou hast wrought,
With thy bright heavenly pen and splendid thought,

Though all admire, and deem the colours fair,
'Tis but thine own pure self reflected there.

London, Aug., 1825.

M. G. L.

THE INNOCENT THEFT.

As Venus to Paphos, one bright summer morning,
In her gay car of pearl, by soft zephyr was borne,

Each flowret she found her loved island adorning,—
Rose, lily, and heliotrope—faded or torn.

‘Who, Cupid,’ she cried, ‘has thus dared to assail them—
What impious mortal has spurn'd my command?’

‘No mortal, fair queen!’—’twould but little avail them—
It was thine own Cupid—they fell by his hand.

‘I took from the rose-bud its deep-blushing colour,
To tinge the pale cheek of my Myrrha so fair—
Her breath from the cinnamon borrows its odour,
And the rays of the heliotrope beam from her hair.

‘The violet and harebell, their azure imparting,
Bestow on her eyes a more delicate blue;
From the lily its whiteness I stole, and, departing,
Just touch'd her young brow, and then—hasten'd to you.

‘Yet banish all anger, thy bosom consuming;
For thou canst restore to them all that they've lost,
From thine own lovely features, e'en then but too blooming,
And yet leave my fair her stolen beauties to boast,

‘Yes—Venus, Love's own gentle mandate obeying,
Smile sweetly, as wont, and away with those frowns!’

Ay, smile and forbearance—not anger—displaying,
Teach mortals true beauty no jealousy owns!’

H. B.

THE DRAMA,

AND PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

ENGLISH OPERA-HOUSE.—The successful career of the opera of *Tarrare*, which was admirably performed on Wednesday night, has been arrested, for the present, by the expiration of Mr. Braham's engagement. He has, however, found an admirable successor, though in a very different line, in the person of our own and the public's old friend and favourite, Charles Mathews. Were the weather as hot as it is in the United States—and the American papers actually state that it melts honey, smothers the bees in the hives, and even hatches eggs in the open market, still would Mathews alone fill the English Opera-House. This he did on Thursday night, and received a welcome so hearty that he must have felt himself quite at home. He appeared in the character of Mr. Blushing-ton, in the farce of *The Bashful Man*: the awkwardness and embarrassment, bodily and mental, into which his blunders successively threw him, were admirably personified; and, in the drunken scene, every limb and muscle seemed intoxicated: all the phases of drunkenness were so well exhibited, that an excellent Hogarthian picture might be painted from Mr. Mathews' performance, to be called the Drunkard's Progress. There is a young artist, we believe, of the name of Hunt, who, from some sketches we have seen, we should be inclined to think would do this well, and we suggest to him the hint. *Gretna Green* followed, and was very well performed; and this was succeeded by *Jonathan in England*, in which Mr. Mathews played Jonathan W. Doubikins, to the infinite amusement of a very crowded audience.

HAYMARKET THEATRE.—*Roses and Thorns* has been played several times since our last, but it on Thursday gave way to the revival of *Inkle and Yarico*, in which nearly all the operative force of the house was employed. Mr. Farren played Sir Christopher Carry, and Madame Vestris Wowski; both the characters were of course extremely well played, and the opera went off with considerable eclat.

LITERATURE AND SCIENCE.

Mr. Kirby's *Lecture on Steam*, at the *Paul's Head*, *Cateaton Street*.—We were on Monday last, says a correspondent, extremely gratified with attending a lecture which comprised the history of the steam engine, and the account of those powers it now so eminently displays. These powers were exemplified by Mr. Kirby the lecturer, in the exhibition of various small, but beautiful models of steam engines, the self-moving faculties of which would, in days past, have appeared the effect of magic, and were almost regarded as such by the ladies present. The one which moved along the Tram road gave particular grati-

fication, and reminded us of the assertions made by the author of that very clever little work the Finger Post, respecting the antiquity realised by steam and rail-roads. In short the evening was one of great satisfaction, alike for the correct information, and the unaffected and yet elegant style in which it was conveyed. The good lecturer gave more for the money than he could have been expected to do, for unquestionably two lectures (or at least the matter of two lectures) were compressed into one; but we apprehend few persons besides ourselves will condemn Mr. Kirby for this overflowing measure. To us, who know the value of mental labour, it is natural to condemn works of supererogation.

In the press, Mary Queen of Scots; her persecutions, trials, and sufferings, from her birth till her death.

We understand the author of those popular productions, the Trial of the Rev. Edward Irving, and Trial of the Rev. Alexander Fletcher, has in preparation a Trial of Daniel O'Connell, Esq., Cardinal O'Cobbett will of course again cut a conspicuous figure.

The following hydraulic works have been commenced this year at St. Petersburg:—

1. A navigable canal to join the Moskwa and the Wolga. 2. The junction of the Schecksina with the Dwina, by which the port of Archangel will have a direct communication with St. Petersburg. 3. The junction of the Niemen with the Vistula.

African Expedition.—The Brazen sloop of war sailed from Yarmouth on Sunday afternoon, with the African mission on board, under Captain Clapperton. The object of this mission is to connect the geography of South-Western with Eastern Africa. The expedition will be landed at Benin, and from thence proceed to Timbuctoo, a space hitherto totally unknown to Europeans. After this first part is accomplished the course and termination of the celebrated Niger is to occupy the attention of the travellers; and then, if found practicable, to go to Darfue and Abyssinia; the latter route is to be undertaken by Captain Pearce and Dr. Morrisson.

THE BEE,

OR, FACTS, FANCIES, AND RECOLLECTIONS.

Daily Heat.—The mean of the thermometer, at ten o'clock a. m. and ten o'clock p. m., gives the most correct average of the result of the day.

East India Stock.—The proprietors of East India stock consist of about 300 persons. Those whose stock does not amount to £1000 are not allowed to vote, that amount being a qualification for one vote; £3000 stock qualifies for two votes; £6000 for three votes; and £10,000 stock or upward, for four votes. In 1810, according to the existing list, 1662 were qualified to give single votes; 362 double votes; 84 triple votes; and 51 quadruple votes.—The total number of votes, therefore, was 2770; but as many proprietors are ab-

sent from England, and others do not attend, more than 1900 have never voted, and, indeed, that number may be considered as a maximum.

Dormant Seeds.—Crops of white clover spring up in appearance spontaneously on the application of lime to dry heaths or barren soils, and raspberry-bushes start up where fir-woods have been burned down, though not a vestige of either could previously be discovered on the spot.

Ferintosh Whiskey.—The word Ferintosh signifies Thane's land, it having been part of the Thanedom of Gawdor (Macbeth's), or Calder. The barony of Ferintosh belonged to the Forbes's, of Culloden, and contained about 1800 arable acres. All barley produced on this estate was privileged to be converted into whiskey, duty free; the natural consequence of which was, that more whiskey was distilled in Ferintosh than in all the rest of Scotland. In 1784, government made a sort of compulsory purchase of this privilege from the Culloden family, after they had enjoyed it for a complete century. The sum paid was £21,500.

The Tread Mills, and Millbank Penitentiary.—At Lewes, each prisoner walks at the rate of 6600 feet in ascent per day; at Ipswich, 7450; at St. Alban's, 8000; at Bury, 8950; at Cambridge, 10,175; at Durham, 12,000; at Brixton, Guildford, and Reading, the summer rate exceeds 13,000; while at Warwick the summer rate will be 17,000 feet in ten hours. In the spring of 1823, Millbank Penitentiary contained 869 prisoners; the officers and their families amounted to 106.—Total within the walls, 975 persons.

Poisonous Plants.—Five stamina, one pistil, one petal, and the fruit of the berry kind, indicate poisonous plants.—The calyx double, glume valved, three stamina, two pistils, and naked seeds, indicate plants of a farinaceous quality, and fit for food.

Drury-Lane Theatre.—The boxes in the new Drury-Lane Theatre will hold 1200 individuals; the pit, 860; the lower gallery, 410; the upper gallery, 280; in all, 2810 persons can be accommodated.

Corporeal Identity.—Some have considered a change of corporeal identity to be effected every three, others every seven years. Letters marked on the skin, however, last during life; and there are some diseases of which the constitution is only once susceptible.

WEEKLY METEOROLOGICAL JOURNAL.

Day of the Month.	8 o'clock Morning.	1 o'clock Noon.	11 o'clock Night.	Barom. 1 o'clock Noon.	Weather.
Aug 26	59	70	57	.. 19	Fair.
.... 27	60	60	56	.. 07	Rain.
.... 28	58	65	60	.. 05	Cloudy.
.... 29	60	66	66	.. 08	Rain.
.... 30	66	76	69	.. 14	Fair.
.... 31	68	76	64	.. 14	Do.
Sept. 1	66	76	66	.. 15	Do.

Works published since our last notice.—Millburn's Oriental Commerce, improved by Thornton, royal 8vo. 12. 16s.—Loss of the Kent, 2s. 6d.—Selections from Virgil, 6s.—Selections from Horace, 4s. 6d.—Whiston's Josephus, two vols. 12. 4s.—Lowth on Isaiah, 8vo. 10s. 6d.—Apology for Don Juan, 3s.—Walton's Leger, Major's edition, plates, &c. post 8vo. 13s.; large paper, with proofs, 2l. 2s.

Just published, price 2s.

THE JEWS CATECHISM, containing the Thirteen Articles of the Jewish Religion, with a prefatory discourse against Atheism, &c. Dedicated to the Rev. Solomon Herschel. Printed for Knight and Lacey, Paternoster Row, and to be had of all Booksellers.

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12, Chapel Field, South Lambeth, 26th August, 1825.

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